

January 1943

Dearest Mother and Betty Jean,

A letter from mother with pictures of Betty, Junior and others came to day. The pictures are exceptional good I suppose I think so because I was and am surprised how Betty has grown. She is filling out also. I am glad she is for I was thinking that she would be tall and slim. She is nice looking, tell her I said so. Junior is a young man too. Betty Jean has a cute face but that figure is nothing to look at.

A letter from Barbara came yesterday dated Jan. 2. She received the letter I wrote telling about the article in the newsweek. You know the one Bah sent you. Well, she finds the magazine and article but she didn't read the paragraph that I wanted her to read. She wrote you a letter concerning the subject. Don't let her mislead you for I have never been there and I am still where Bah told you. I suppose I will stay here for several more months.



I also got letter from Mrs. Emerson dated Jan. 2. She didn't have much to say. Just, that she wanted to start the year by writing two boys that she loves. She can hardly wait until we get back there so she can show us how much she does love us. I think or I should know that we have letter from her still in the mail written on or before Dec. 15. Why? Because she wrote Ray on that date and told him about selling our car for \$300. If she did you will get the \$300 for our bank account.

Extra - Bob read the letter Ray got. Mrs. Emerson addressed it. It was suppose to be for Bob and because he could tell by the contents. Of course Bob didn't say anything about it.

To. morrow is wash day. I hope to do a better job than we have done hither too. I think I depend too much on what boiling does for the clothes.

Good night my darlings, I will be with you again soon. Give my regards to all.

Love and kisses your boys  
Bob & Brock



Back to the pictures - Bettye Jean looks like Ava. Now send me one that looks like Bettye Jean. Don't get me wrong - those are good pictures but the ones of you are not like the other ones you sent.

Two lessons of my course were returned to me. They were the first and fourth. I made an hundred on each. They sent me four more lessons. I have completed three of them. I will finish the fourth soon. I can work this one in two or three hours when I get ready. I ask for the next four lessons. I hope I get them soon. If the school would keep me busy I could finish the course in short order. I would like to finish the course before I get back to the states. For when I get there I want have time to study a correspondence course.

Ray came in with Canned Chicken, bread, and fruit cake-tail. I think all of us ate too much. It was good any way. This should be done more often.

I got a xmas card from Mrs. Catherin this morning

Two money orders enclosed \$1.00 + \$3.00

Love love  
Brook



January 1943

Dearest Mother and Bettye Jean,

A letter from mother with pictures of Betty, Junior and others came today. The pictures are exceptional good. I suppose I think so because I was and am surprised how Betty has grown. She is filling out also. I am glad she is for I was thinking that she would be tall and slim. She is nice looking, tell her I said so. Junior is a young man too. Bettye Jean has a cute face but that figure is nothing to look at.

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Tomorrow is wash day. I hope to do a better job than I've done hither too. I think I depend too much on what boiling does for the clothes.

Good night my Darlings, I will be with you again soon. Give my regards to all.

Love and kisses,

Your boys,

Bob and Brock

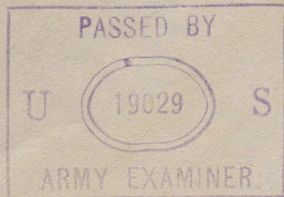


S/Sgt James R. Thornhill (7002192)  
Hq & Hq Sq, 11th Bomb Group (H)  
APO #708, C/O Postmaster  
San Francisco, California



SERVICE MAIL VIA CLIPPER

**VIA AIR MAIL**



Mrs Bessie Thornhill  
P.O. #205  
Magnolia, Mississippi  
U. S. A.

*rtspaulding  
1-2-48*



6 January 1943

*Air Mail*  
Dear Mom and All,

I know you are mad for not hearing from me before now but I just couldn't get around to it. The time passes so fast I can't keep up with it. It seems only yesterday that I wrote you but got to checking as to when I wrote the last one and its been a week. I still have nothing interesting to write about, nothing ever happens around here. The incomming mail is not so bad; except for times but most of it gets here in about 15 days. It seems that Brock gets his mail quicker than I do for some reason or other so from now on you can send all of our mail to him.

Too bad about the fruit cakes burning, boy how I would like to get in one of them. I hope you have better luck with the other one. We have had alkind of candy here since Xmas but its nothing like a good old fruit cake! with a nice cold glass of milk. I bet the turkey was really good when you got through with it. We had extra good turkey this time and I did enjoy it. You sure got a bargain when you bought yours.

It seems that your business is picking up. I hope you got a nother lady to work with you for ten hours is intirely too long. I didn't like the idea at first but if you like it and satisfied with the job its perfectly all right with me.

Too bad about B. J. solo, I know she must have been dissapointed after buying the new dress and everything. Maybe she will get a change to do it again. She must be pretty good, huh. I got a letter from her the other day telling me all about it and her new dress.

I wish you hadn't written the letter about the allotment. It want help a bit and I know why you hadn't recieved it. You should know me well enough to know that I wasn't going to let nothing happen to my money. The reason for it is that the application was late getting in. I had already checked on it long time ago; fact is the application asking for the allotment and the one discontinueing it went in at the same time and that was when I made Staff. So please don't worry about it and don't write anymore letters with out letting me <sup>know</sup> for I know all the ropes and etc. OK? He should be able to rush it up a little tho.

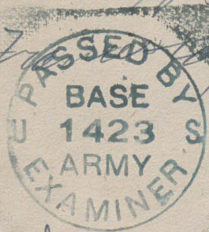
Glad to hear that you are wearing ashoe again. You foot must have been in pretty bad condition. Brock got a letter from Barbara yesterday saying Mrs Wall had fallen down the stairs and hurting her head very bed. I think she is in the hospital now. I will have to write her a letter soon as possible.

Brock got a letter from Ava today with the pictures I sent to have developed. I wonder why yours don't come out that good! Maybe you need more pratic, huh. By the way the home and the couple is Mr and Mrs Greggs, swell people. No news so will get some shut eye. Good by angle and remember I love you.

Bob



Edmore Brock Thornhill  
Sergeant 72nd Bomb. Sq (H)  
APO # 708 9 Postmaster  
San Francisco California



VIA AIR MAIL

*Delivered by  
Capt. A.A.H.*

Mrs. Bessie Thornhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi



January 8, 1943

Dear Mother & B.

To day is my day day to write letters. When I finish I should have six to mail. I am glad I am no one that has to read what I write too. I received several wonderful letters this week. Letters from you, Eva, Maxine, Emerson, Cady & Dolly. All of the pictures that were sent out came in these letters. I received forty pictures from New Zealand also that I sent there to be printed. I have one album full. I will fill Babs' now and still have pictures left for another.

Time passes on - I am still here. But I know it won't be for as long as it has been. Five or six more months of this and I will be somewhere else; maybe at home and again maybe further from home.

Babe is working again. For the pass two weeks he didn't do a thing. I think he has enough to keep him busy for a couple days now.

My work is the same only I have to go farther to work. The work is easy and interesting; therefore I like it and the time spent there is not missed. It seems that I spend more time at the mess hall than any where else.



I would send some of my pictures home but I don't want to take the chance of losing any. And to it will be more fun to explain them to you at the same time. That is why I am keeping them. You saw enough in the pictures I sent to have an idea what the place is like. The one with me in bathing suit was taken at Canby, I was taking a swim bath. The picture of man and woman is Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Grieg. The house is theirs. I took them two days before I left Baker. Bob has a dozen rolls of film and Ray has a dozen. I think I have five rolls left. If every roll is taken we will have all kinds of pictures.

I washed to Ray. I forgot about my shirt until I had my dark clothes in the pot. I washed twelve towels, five suits of underwear, 12 pair socks four pair of ~~unders~~ coveralls and a uniform then my shirt.

I will see you again soon. Good luck to you darlings. Don't worry about us. we have plenty. Take care of your self and be ready to meet us soon.

Love  
Bob & Black



January 8, 1943

Dear Mother and BJ.

Today is my day to write letters. When I finish I should have six to mail. I am glad. I am no one that has to read what I write too. I received several wonderful letters this week. Letters from you, Ava, Maxine, Emerson, Cady and Wall. All of the pictures that were sent out came in these letters. I received 40 pictures from New Zealand also that I sent there to be printed. I have one album full. I will fill Bob's now and still have pictures left for another.

Time passes on-I am still here. But I know it won't be for as long as it has been. Five or six more months of this and I will be somewhere else, maybe at home and again maybe further from home.

Bob is working again. For the past two weeks he didn't do a thing. I think he has enough to keep him busy for a couple of days now.

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I washed today. I forgot about my shorts until I had my dark clothes in the pot. I washed twelve towels, five suits of underwear, 12 pair of socks, four pair of coveralls and a uniform then my sheets.

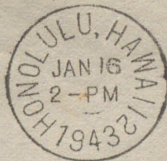
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Love

Bob and Brock



B. L. Wall  
2667 Tantalus Dr.  
Honolulu, T. H.



Mrs. Bessie Thoruhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia  
Mississippi



2731

U. S. A.



Barbara

Honolulu, T. H.  
January 12, 1943

My dear Mrs. Thornhill,

Mother was so pleased and happy to receive your beautiful card and handkerchief, and she wants me to tell you for her how sweet it was of you and how very much she appreciates it. Mother loves handkerchiefs and she has been showing it and the lovely card with the flowers to all her nurses.

We don't know, yet, just when Mother will be coming home. She is getting along fine but it is slow. She sits up in the chair for two hours each day and is more than ready to get back to bed again. Naturally



-2-  
Barbara

she is weak and her head still hurts. The unfortunate thing is having that broken cartilage in her knee, but I guess that the doctors will do what is best.

No word from the boys since December 8<sup>th</sup>. I know that Brock must have written but the mail is just slow now. They announced over the radio, and informed us in the newspapers that no packages, magazines, or airmail letters will be accepted for the boys down south unless approved by their Commanding officer. In other words, we are hereafter to send letters by convoy and that will take way over a month! I am very disappointed, but it must be. I am going



Barbara

to write to Brock tonight and explain. I realize, of course, that the Post Office is flooded with mail and can't handle all airmail, but it is a shame for the boys overseas for they look forward to mail and now it will be slow. Mother had some new magazines to send to the boys and I was just about to send them off when this restriction came along.

Please tell Ava that I took her letters and snapshots of the children down to Mother to read again, for when they first came, Mother was more or less "out" and couldn't remember everything. She enjoyed them very much. How we



Barbara

should all love to see little Robert Brock. Of course we should love to see Sue also, for she is at a darling age just now.

I just remembered that Mother wanted me to tell you that she was sending a "Paradise of the Pacific" to you with a card inside. If you will please excuse the tardiness, I'll try to get it off to you soon.

How is Bettye Jean?

Many thanks to you for your sweet thoughtfulness.

With much love,

Barbara



Honolulu, T.H.  
January 12, 1943

My dear Mrs. Thornhill

Mother was so pleased and happy to receive your beautiful card and handkerchief and she wants me to tell you for her how sweet it was of you and how very much she appreciates it. Mother loves handkerchiefs and she has been showing it and the lovely card with the flowers to all of her nurses.

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How is Betty Jean?

Many thanks to you for your sweet thoughtfulness.

With much love,

Barbara





*Wm. T. Dole*  
AFTER 10 DAYS RETURN TO  
HAWAIIAN PINEAPPLE COMPANY  
LIMITED  
P. O. DRAWER 3380  
HONOLULU, HAWAII, U. S. A.



*Mr. Bessie Thornhill  
Magnolia  
Miss.*



KENNETH W. EMERSON

P. O. BOX 3380

*Honolulu, Hawaii*

Jan, 28, 1943

Dear Mrs. Thornhill,

I think Mrs. Emerson has written you so you know who the Emersons are and how we have enjoyed knowing your two fine boys, Bob and Brock. No doubt Brock wrote you about leaving his car with us when he left for the South a couple of months ago. It was very kind of him to let us use it while he was getting the ownership papers fixed up but when they finally arrived we sold it for him. The last payment was received a week or so ago and I am herewith sending the proceeds and final papers to you. He asked that you ~~you~~ hold the money for him, as he could have not much use for it in the jungles.

Both boys are very good letter writers and we all get a big kick out of the mail we get from them. Mrs. Emerson is the chief correspondent of our family and sometimes she isn't too good due to her many cares and responsibilities that seem to be the order of the day during these trying times we are going thru. Right now all the news seems to be good news and let's hope it continues to be. The Churchill and Roosevelt stand for an unconditional surrender may be more costly for the present but it should be better from the long range point of view.

We have a couple of foot lockers and odds and ends belonging to the boys stored in our attic and will try to take good care of them until they get back into circulation. The whole family is looking forward to seeing Brock and Bob's cheerful faces drop in again. They have always been more than welcome and always will be. Best wishes to you and yours.

Yours truly

*Kenneth W. Emerson*



John May Brad Hornhill  
Sgt. 702200-77<sup>th</sup> Bomb. Sq.  
APO # 708 9<sup>th</sup> Postmaster  
San Francisco, Calif.  
February 24, 1943

Dearest Mother & B.J.

The Tomas package came yesterday. The candy sure is good. The gum was the best idea though. We get candy all the time but no gum and I do like to chew gum. I am glad you sent hard candy. If it had been soft it would have spoiled in the length of time.

I will be off the line for one week beginning today. There is a special job to be done that men are assigned to for one week at a time. I will be in charge. There



has to be a truck driver so I will  
probably be the driver. Driving a  
truck will be more interesting than  
the other work

I don't boil my dark clothes  
any more. I soak them in  
jasatime over night and hang them  
out to dry and air. Sometimes  
it rains and rinse the clothes on  
the line.

Bah got letter from Nilda today. She is  
to be married soon. All of us got a  
big laugh. Remember how he laughed  
at me when Grace married.  
Love to all  
Bah & Buck



Talmadge Brock Thornhill  
Sgt. 7002200 72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb. Sq  
APO# 708 c/o Postmaster  
San Francisco, Calif.  
February 24, 1943

Dearest Mother and B.J.

The Xmas package came yesterday. The candy sure is good. The gum was the best idea though. We get candy all the time but no gum and I do like to chew gum. I am glad you sent hard candy. If it had of been soft it would have spoiled in the length of time.

I will be off the line for one week beginning today. There is a special job to be done that men are assigned for one week at a time. I will be in charge. There has to be a truck driver so I will probably be the driver. Driving a truck will be more interesting than the other work.

[The next paragraph has been cut out by censor]

I don't boil my dark clothes any more. I soak them in gasoline overnight and hang them out to dry and air. Sometimes it rains and rinse the clothes on the line.

Bob got a letter from Hilda today. She is to be married soon. All of us got a big laugh. Remember how he laughed at me when Grace married.

Love to all,

Bob and Brock



McComb Miss  
Monday Night

My dearest boys:

Just a note before the postman comes. Should have written you last night but Hobson and I drove from Jackson or Tena in a storm. And I was whipped down when we got here. First the wind blew and we found the car making 65. No fault of the driver of course, just the wind. The rain came at Hazlehurst and such a rain I've never seen. We had to stop several times because we couldn't see a thing. A good bit of hail was mixed a long while with the rain. The storm was general all over the state killing several and blowing down a number of houses so we were lucky to make it home safe. I got out the car on the curb and ran for the porch and got so wet I had to change clothes. It was pouring.

We took Mamma home. She just had to go after her two week stay. I don't think she will want to come back in couple of weeks if she's able. Break her heart she is going down so fast. I'm so glad



you got to see her when you did. I'm  
afraid she want make many <sup>more</sup> trips back  
and forth.

I want try to tell you about Jephia's wedding  
but will ~~to~~ enclose one of Belle's letter and  
you'll know it all. If he's even half as  
good as she pictures him Jephia is still  
lucky. I do hope every thing will be good  
for her for she had a lot of unhappiness.

The month of March has been different from  
any I remember - no cold and very  
little wind except Sun. night. Even fig leaves  
or full grown and pecans or putting out.  
As it stands there should be plenty of fruit  
~~make~~ maybe will at least have figs, pears  
huckleberries and black berries. Straw berries  
are 40¢ a box and I certainly don't think  
they are that good.

Some I don't understand about our allot-  
ment checks. I can't find any one else that  
had to wait near so long. Dora and Richard  
thurs got theirs in a month. Holson thinks  
I should go to the Red Cross and ask them  
to try and get it started for me. Certainly  
would make a difference in my peace of  
mind if it would come on. Since it  
been so long. I can't feel sure. You know



You made application about three weeks  
after Major and Ada's came in Dec. If  
I don't hear from them by the first. I'll  
see about borrowing the money to come  
see you on. I really think if you would  
write them it would help more than the Red  
Cross. Tell them how much we need the  
funds etc.

I'm still sewing and am so tired of  
it. Expect to devote next week to making some-  
thing for my self and I hate sewing for  
my self more than any thing I know. Have  
Sue and Betty. Washoe looking much better.

Almost time for postman. Since I'll  
have to start sending your letters by  
regular mail since the increase of post-  
age. Can't stand nine cents often.

Remember darlings and I'll write again  
real soon

I love you  
Mother.



March 1943  
McComb

My dearest boys,

Just a note before the postman comes. Should have written you last night but Hobson and I drove from Jackson or Terra in a storm and I was whipped down when we got here. First the wind blew and we found the car making 65. No fault of the driver of course just the wind. The rain came at Hazlehurst and such a rain I've never seen. We had to stop several times because we couldn't see a thing. A good bit of hail was mixed along with the rain. The storm was general all over the state, killing several and blowing down a number of houses, so we were lucky to make it home safe. I got out of the car on the curb and ran for the porch, and got so wet I had to change clothes. It was pouring.

We took Mama home. She just had to go after her two weeks stay. No doubt she will want to come back in a couple of weeks if she's able. Bless her heart she is going down so fast. I'm so glad you got to see her when you did. I'm afraid she won't make many more trips back and forth.

I won't try to tell you about Jepsa's wedding but will enclose one of Alle's letters and you'll know it all. If he's even half as good as she pictures him Jepsa is still lucky. I do hope everything will be good for her for she's had a lot of unhappiness.

The month of March has been different from any I remember, no cold and very little wind except Sun. night. Even fig leaves are full grown and pecans are [putting out. As it stands there should be plenty of fruit. May be we'll at least have figs, pears, huckleberries and blackberries. Strawberries are 40¢ a box and I certainly don't think they are that good.

Sons I don't understand about our allotment checks. I can't find anyone else that's had to wait near so long. Dora and Rev and others got theirs in 6 months. Hobson thinks I should go to the Red Cross and ask them to try and get it started for me. Certainly would make a difference in my peace of mind it would come on. Since it's been so long I can't feel sure, you know. You made the application about three weeks after Major and Ava's came in Dec. If I don't hear from them by the first I'll see about borrowing the money to come see you on. I really think if you would write them it would help more than the Red Cross. Tell them how much we need the funds, ect.

I'm still sewing and am so tired of it. Expect to deviate next week to making something for myself and I hate sewing for myself more than anything I know. I have Sue's and Betty J.'s wardrobe looking much better.

Almost time for postman. Guess I'll have to start sending your letters by regular mail since the increase of post again. Can't stand nine cents often.

Be sweet darlings and I'll write again real soon.

I love you,

Mother



No. \_\_\_\_\_

S. T. TALMAGE, THRU 114  
72ND BOMB GROUP (H)  
APO 704 1/2 POSTMASTER  
SAN FRANCISCO CALIF.

MRS BESSIE TERRY, 1144  
(Sender's name)

MARGONIA, MISS  
(Sender's address)

MARCH 8, 43

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

(Date)

Hello Darlings: I do feel so much better to day. I got a letter from each of you Sat. one yesterday. three from Brock and one from Bob to day. I do believe my boys will be coming home before long. Bob is so happy over the hope of your return to Mrs. Cady. I took a big cry over Brock being left behind. That's as we should expect for you entered the trenches two months ahead. Darling I hope you will soon follow and then can come home to gather. I wish that this will come true not too far in the future. It must. Others are coming home every week.

The \$100.00 money order came to day. We put it in the bank and add to it as you send more home so it will be ready to draw out when you want it. We handled more money in the last three weeks than ever. Checks for both parts. Your check from the postment and what I've taken in and paid out. Bob's check came to day. Its for \$210.00. Betty's name wasn't on it so guess she will get a separate check. I knew we should get it and I wanted it for every body else is getting it. I've hasn't been in service but about 4 months and I've got a \$50.00 check this month. I pay for 120.00 for the board and laundry and she makes \$15.00 a month. See what I mean. I still owe Hobson, my car and refrigerator so am going to make him take some out of this check. I've offered him some at different times but he said I don't need it. He is so smart. I just started so well more I mail the love you mother



Magnolia, Miss  
March 8, 43

Hello Darlings,

I do feel so much better today. I got a letter from each of you Sat. and yesterday, three from Brock and one from Bob today. I do believe my boys will be coming home before long. Bob, I'm so happy over the hopes of your return to Mrs. Cady. I took a big cry over Brock being left behind. That's as we should expect for you entered the jungles two months ahead. Darling I hope you will soon follow and then come home together. I feel that this will come true not too far in the future. It must, others are coming home every week.

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I love you, Mother



Dear Mather & B.J.

13 March 1943

I am a little late getting this off but since my arrival I have been so busy and excited over the whole thing I just didn't get around to it. I sent a telegram the day I arrived so guess you received it. I won't attempt to say how happy I am to be back for it is almost impossible. It seems almost like a dream to be sleeping on a bed again with sheets. we are getting plenty to eat also. Since we arrived I have been eating two scoops daily with all the ice cream, milk, sugar and what have you. we have had call of the Bull garden every day so I have had my share of it too. we are having a beer bust this afternoon for the boys and so haven't had a chance to go to town or yet. I think we get passed to morrow and you can imagine how I am looking forward to getting in town.

we had a pretty good trip back months we almost stowed. we had two or three rough days but didn't get sea sick. I am looking forward to the one to the States which shouldn't be too long off. we'll be a chance of course. I have been back here on a chance back there.

I received a couple of your letters with the new APO the day I arrived. It seems like a regular letter comes through just as fast as the V. mail so why not write them. I got one from B.J. this morning and it came just as fast. I have so down many to write I hardly know where to start. I am working today and night so will try to get a few of them. I know you are mad as the devil at me but you know how it is. I know all the friends and others well.

Glad to hear you have the tires and maybe I will get to use them a little. I like the bank account sounds good for me. I think we get paid today so will be sending you a little more later.

Love Bat



13 March 1943

Dear Mother and B.J.

I am a little late getting this off but since my arrival I have been so busy and excited over the whole thing. I just didn't get around to it. I sent a telegram the day I arrived so guess you received it. I won't attempt to say how happy I am to be back for it is almost impossible. It seems almost like a dream to be sleeping on a bed again with sheets. We are getting plenty to eat also. Since we arrived I have been eating two [unreadable] daily with all the ice cream, milk shakes and what have you. We have roll call at the beer garden every day so I have had my share of it too. We are having a beer bust this afternoon for the boys and expecting a big time. We have been quarantined since we arrived so hadn't had a chance to go to town yet. I think we get passes tomorrow and you can imagine how I am looking forward to getting in town.

We had a pretty good trip back even though we almost starved. We had two or three rough days but didn't get sea sick. I am looking forward to [unreadable] to the station which shouldn't be too long off. We had a choice of [two lines cut out by censor]

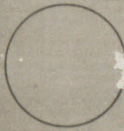
I received a couple of your letters with the new APO the day I arrived. It seems the regular letter comes through just as fast as the V.mail so why not write them. I got one from B.J. this morning and it came just as fast. I have so darn many to write I hardly know where to start. I am working today and night so will try to get a few of them. I know Ava is mad as the devil at me but you know how it is. I saw all the friends and all is well.

Glad to hear you have the tires and maybe I will get to use them a little. I like the bank account, sounds good to me. I think we get paid today so will be sending more. Will write more later.

Love, Bob



No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

2 Brook Thembille  
2nd Borab Sq. (H)  
A.P.D. 708  
For Postmaster  
San Francisco Calif

Mrs WA Knight  
(Sender's name)  
4073 Redwing  
(Receiver's address)  
Jackson  
Miss  
(Date) 3-17-45

My Dear Boys. This is good old St Patrick's Day, and I wonder what the old boy would think if he could look in for instance on you to night, and change from his world at war.

I had a birthday and it was a good one too, got so many nice things, and had a pleasant day.

I have been working at the Canteen to day and my dog do hurt, but I am happy to be able to work.

John was up this week end, he has been out in the woods for three weeks and it was cold too, but he looks well, he will be leaving Shelby soon. Well so long for to night be seeing you soon

V-MAIL

How is the wash coming



72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Sq. (H)  
APO 708  
San Francisco, CA

My Dear Boys,

This is good old St Patrick's day and I wonder what the old boy would think if he could look for an instance on you tonight. What a change from his world at war.

I had a birthday and it was a good one too. Got so many nice things, and had a pleasant day..

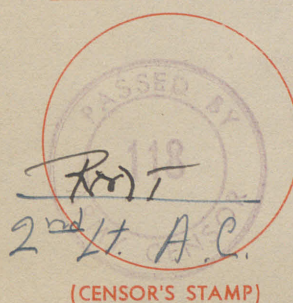
I have been working at the canteen today and my "dogs do hurt" but I am happy to be able to work.

John was up this weekend. He has been out in the woods for three weeks and it was cold too, but he looked well. He will be leaving Shelby soon. Well so long for tonight. Be seeing you soon. How is the wash coming

[unreadable] (written by Dora Knight)



No. \_\_\_\_\_



Mrs. Bessie Thornhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi

S/Sgt. T.B. Thornhill  
(Sender's name)  
72nd Bomb. Sq. APO 708  
(Sender's address)  
Eh. San Francisco, Cal.  
March 20, 1943  
(Date)

Good morning darlings. I went to work this morning. I was assigned Crew Chief of 054, one of our planes. It's not here now - that's why I am back at my tent. I have read two stories this morning, both war stories. I am resting while I write you. I don't know why but I don't like to read more than two stories at a time. I get tired and restless and can't get comfortable. That's why I read awhile then write and then just talk to the boys.

The sun is out bright and hot this morning. Maybe my clothes will dry. They probably won't smell any too good, but they won't be dirty. I dried my sheet inside of tent yesterday and used it last night. I put the top sheet on bottom and this one on top. Three sheets see. That way I wash only one at a time.

Your V. mail letter of February 22 came yesterday. Also one from Ava and one from Aunt Dora. I wrote both of them last night. I try to write them often but I fail at times. Good day folks -  
Love my love to  
Bar & Brock

V...-MAIL



DO NOT  
WRITE HERE

FOLD HERE

DO NOT  
WRITE HERE

V-Mail Service is available to provide the most expeditious dispatch and reduce the weight of mail to and from the personnel of our Armed Forces outside the continental United States. When addressed to points where micro-film equipment is in operation, a miniature photographic negative of the message will be made and sent by the most expeditious form of transportation available for reproduction and delivery. Messages addressed to or from points where micro-film equipment is not in operation will be transmitted in their original form by the most expeditious means available.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Write the entire message on the other side below the double line. Write plainly.
- (2) Address exactly as you would an ordinary letter, **PRINTING** the address in the two panels provided.
- (3) Fold according to instructions, seal, and drop in any post office letter drop or street letter box.
- (4) If it is desired to send more than one sheet a separate form must be completed. Enclosures must not be placed in this envelope.
- (5) The original will be destroyed after the corresponding film has been delivered at the destination.

☆ GPO 16-28143-2

FOLD HERE

DO NOT  
WRITE HERE

DO NOT  
WRITE HERE

**MAIL** —...— **V**

*Via Clipper*

*Mrs. Bessie Thornhill*  
*Box 205*  
*Magnolia, Mississippi*

AFTER \_\_\_\_\_ DAYS RETURN TO—

*2597 T.B. Thornhill-7002200*  
*22nd Bomb Sq. APO 708 96 Pm.*

FOLD SIDES OVER AND  
NO OTHER



S/Sgt T.B. Thornhill  
72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Sq. APO 708  
c/o PM San Francisco, Cal.  
March 20, 1943

Mrs.. Bessie Thornhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi

Good morning darlings. I went to work this morning. I was assigned Crew Chief of 054, one of our planes. It's not here now-that's why I am back at my tent. I have read two stories this morning, both war stories. I am resting while I write you. I don't know why but I don't like to read more than two stories at a time. I get tired and restless and can't get comfortable. That's why I read a while then write and then just talk to the boys.

The sun is out bright and hot this morning. Maybe my clothes will dry. They probably won't smell any too good, but they won't be dirty. I dried my sheet inside of the tent yesterday and used it last night. I put the top sheet on bottom and this one on top. Three sheets see. That way I wash only one at a time.

Your V. mail letter of February 22 came yesterday. Also one from Ava and one from Aunt Dora. I wrote both of them last night. I try to write them often but I fail at times.

Good day lovers

Send my love to all

Bob and Brock



No

From

From  
MRS BESSIE THORNTON  
(Sender's name)

*NAGVOLIA* MISS

(Sender's address)  
P.O. Box 205

MARCH-21-43

[ Date ]

[SENSOR'S STAMP]

My dearest boys: G. letter came from Bob, to day  
Written the 5th of this month. Still said he expected to  
see me Cady with in a month. Which means his own  
his wagon about to sail. He be so relieved when he  
lands again. I hope his return trip will be as  
pleasant as when he went over. ~~How~~ how do you  
want to come back - like you went on by boat.  
John and his girl friend came over this week  
end. C. W. Major and the children came down here  
with them Saturday for dinner. I had two boys  
from Camp Van Dorn also. I had fried Chicken  
frozen ice cream and a lot of good things to eat.  
Every body seemed to enjoy the day very much.  
The boys from Van Dorn were the most grateful  
I've ever seen. They are coming back soon John  
leaves ~~for~~ next week for two weeks of maneuvers in  
La. They will not come back to Camp Shiloh, and  
he's already worrying about where he might be sent.  
He's been lucky but I wouldn't doubt but that he  
will be sent across when the maneuvers are  
over.  
I got a letter from Mrs Cady yesterday. Said  
she had a Japanese friend at Camp Shiloh who  
worked for Mr Cady until he enlisted. His name  
is Sgt. Jack Murata but she didn't give me his  
full address. John took his name and said he  
felt sure he could find him. I'd love to have  
him come over for the week end but  
don't he get to  
V-MAT  
Cove. Coast.  
Cove. Coast. mother

Come. Come.  
Love. Darling. Mother



No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To  
SGT. TALMAGE B. THORNHILL  
72ND BOMB GROUP (H)  
A.P.O. 708% POSTMASTER  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

From

MRS BESSIE THORNHILL  
(Sender's name)

MAGNOLIA MISS  
(Sender's address)

BOX 205

MARCH 22-43.  
(Date)

Hello. Believe I was talking about the Sgt. Innate. The reason John thought he shouldn't get to come over is that they are leaving the same time for Germany. I certainly would love to see and talk with him.

I saw in the paper where Jerome Johnson is home. Thought he might come to see us but he hasn't. Don't know how long he will be home. See tell you every body else comes home.

Oh yes. Mrs. Byrd has been notified by the government that both of her boys - Malcolm and Marshall - are ~~prisoners~~ prisoners of war. May be Selgie Thron

home will come out next. You remember they were reported missing in action after the fall of the Philippines and this is the first she heard since.

Bob said you expected to make staff soon. I'm so proud for you. He also said you would lose a few dollars on it for my allotment would stop. I still say you are wrong about that. They sent me official blanks to fill out for Bob and had Staff Sgt. on the letter they wrote me. Since then I got the check for him. The checks are for \$37. not \$50. Wives get \$50 and mothers get only 37. So you see the government only pays me \$5. Mrs. Ruth's husband is Top Sgt and she gets a government check every month.

See and Robert Brock has awful fields. I've been up helping doctor there to day. Both were much better. I love you darling Mr.

V-MAIL



March 21, 43

My dearest boys,

A letter came from Bob today written the 5<sup>th</sup> of this month. Still said he expected to see Mrs.. Cady within a month which means he is on his way or about to sail. I'll be so relieved when he lands again. I hope his return trip will be as pleasant as when he went over. Brock, how do you want to come back – how you went or by boat.

John and his girlfriend came over this week and Ava, Major, and the children came down here with them for dinner. I had two boys from Camp Van Dorn also. I had fried chicken, freezer of ice cream and a lot of good things to eat. They are coming back soon. John leaves next week for two weeks of maneuvers in LA. They will not come back to Camp Shelby and he is already worrying about where he might be sent. He's been lucky but I wouldn't doubt but that he will be sent across when maneuvers are over.

I got a letter from Mrs. Cady yesterday. Said she had a Japanese friend at Camp Shelby that worked for Mr. Cady before he enlisted. His name is Sergeant Jack Murata but she didn't give me his full address. John took his name and said he felt sure he could find him. I'd love to have him come over for the weekend but doubt he gets to come.

(from new page) Hello, I believe I was talking Sgt. Murata. The reason John thought he wouldn't get to come over is that they are leaving the same time for maneuvers. I sure would love to see and talk with him.

I saw in the paper where Jerome Johnson is home. Thought he might come to see us but he hasn't. Don't know how long he will be home. See, I tell you everyone else comes home.

Oh yes, Mrs. Byrd has been notified by the government that both of her boys – Malcolm and Marshall – are prisoners of war. Maybe [unreadable] name will come out next. Remember they were reported missing in October after the fall of the Phillipines and this is the first she has heard since.

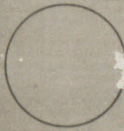
Bob said you expected to make Staff soon. I'm so proud for you. He also said you would lose a few dollars on it for my allotment would stop. I still say you are wrong about that. They sent me affidavit blanks to fill out for Bob and it had Staff Sergeant on the letter they wrote me. Since then I got the check for his. The checks are for \$37, not \$50. Wives get \$50 and mothers get only \$37. So you can see the government only pays me \$15. Mrs. Rash's husband is top sergeant and he gets a government check every month.

Sue and Robert Brock have awful colds. I've been up helping doctor them today. Both were much better tonight. First time our babies have been sick.

I love you darlings, M



No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

2 Brook Thembille  
2nd Borab Sq. (H)  
A.P.D. 708  
For Postmaster  
San Francisco Calif

Mrs WA Knight  
(Sender's name)  
4073 Redwing  
(Receiver's address)  
Jackson  
Miss  
(Date) 3-17-45

My Dear Boys. This is good old St Patrick's Day, and I wonder what the old boy would think if he could look in for instance on you to night, and change from his world at war.

I had a birthday and it was a good one too, got so many nice things, and had a pleasant day.

I have been working at the Canteen to day and my dog do hurt, but I am happy to be able to work.

John was up this week end, he has been out in the woods for three weeks and it was cold too, but he looks well, he will be leaving Shelby soon. Well so long for to night be seeing you soon

V-MAIL

How is the wash coming



72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Sq. (H)  
APO 708  
San Francisco, CA

My Dear Boys,

This is good old St Patrick's day and I wonder what the old boy would think if he could look for an instance on you tonight. What a change from his world at war.

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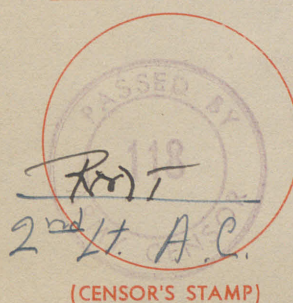
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[unreadable] (written by Dora Knight)



No. \_\_\_\_\_



Mrs. Bessie Thornhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi

S/Sgt. T.B. Thornhill  
(Sender's name)

72nd Bomb. Sq. APO 708  
(Sender's address)

8th. San Francisco, Cal.

March 20, 1943  
(Date)

Good morning darlings. I went to work this morning. I was assigned Crew Chief of 054, one of our planes. It's not here now - that's why I am back at my tent. I have read two stories this morning, both war stories. I am resting while I write you. I don't know why but I don't like to read more than two stories at a time. I get tired and restless and can't get comfortable. That's why I read awhile then write and then just talk to the boys.

The sun is out bright and hot this morning. Maybe my clothes will dry. They probably won't smell any too good, but they won't be dirty. I dried my sheet inside of tent yesterday and used it last night. I put the top sheet on bottom and this one on top. Three sheets see. That way I wash only one at a time.

Your V. mail letter of February 22 came yesterday. Also one from Ava and one from Aunt Dora. I wrote both of them last night. I try to write them often but I fail at times. Good day folks -  
Love my love to  
Bar & Brock

V...-MAIL



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- (5) The original will be destroyed after the corresponding film has been delivered at the destination.

☆ GPO 16-28143-2

FOLD HERE

DO NOT  
WRITE HERE

DO NOT  
WRITE HERE

**MAIL** —...**V**

*Via Clipper*

*Mrs. Bessie Thornhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi*

AFTER \_\_\_\_\_ DAYS RETURN TO—

*2597 T.B. Thornhill-7002200  
22nd Bomb Sq. APO 708 96 Pm.*

FOLD SIDES OVER AND  
NO OTHER



S/Sgt T.B. Thornhill  
72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Sq. APO 708  
c/o PM San Francisco, Cal.  
March 20, 1943

Mrs.. Bessie Thornhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi

Good morning darlings. I went to work this morning. I was assigned Crew Chief of 054, one of our planes. It's not here now-that's why I am back at my tent. I have read two stories this morning, both war stories. I am resting while I write you. I don't know why but I don't like to read more than two stories at a time. I get tired and restless and can't get comfortable. That's why I read a while then write and then just talk to the boys.

The sun is out bright and hot this morning. Maybe my clothes will dry. They probably won't smell any too good, but they won't be dirty. I dried my sheet inside of the tent yesterday and used it last night. I put the top sheet on bottom and this one on top. Three sheets see. That way I wash only one at a time.

Your V. mail letter of February 22 came yesterday. Also one from Ava and one from Aunt Dora. I wrote both of them last night. I try to write them often but I fail at times.

Good day lovers

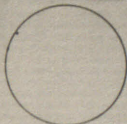
Send my love to all

Bob and Brock



Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. \_\_\_\_\_



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

TO SET. T. B. THORNTON 4670022  
7228 BOMB GROUP (H)  
A.P.O. 708 71 POSTMASTER.  
NACVOLA MISS.

From

MRS BRESSIETHORNTON  
(Sender's name)

NACVOLA MISS  
(Sender's address)

BOX 205

NACVOLA MISS  
(Date)

Hello - I decided I would continue this for another page. You ask about what I would like you to do about I mail. Just keep using it for it comes quick and I notice you don't use stamps. About half of them come just as you write them and I like that fine. The main thing that is keeping from you. Please write me often for I fail to hear from you I don't know what I'll do since you are alone.

We are having our revival this week. I haven't been able to attend as the service but have enjoyed those I did very much. Dr Hunter of Mrs Comb is doing the preaching. Our pastor is a good singer and leader so we're had good singing. Velma came down to night and she said it had been a long time since she had heard such good music.

SET. York was here to morning and I'm very anxious to see it for every body says it's grand. It's been here twice and I missed it so I will see it at church to see it. Saw it in flight last week and think it's fine.

The quartet sang a night and I thought our baby did fine. I'm making her a white dress to morning to wear in the Easter program Sun. The Men Club and quartet are going to give a program at church Sun. Will be Robert Brooks just Easter Sun seems a little excited for her. She never gets all in the air over any thing. Very little candy and other things for Easter and you pay dear for the little things in the my same mind.

and keep praying  
I have Cross Church  
Society Mother.



Hello, I decided I would continue this for another page. You asked what I wanted you do about Vmail. Just keep sending it for it comes quick and I noticed you don't use stamps. About half of them come just as you write them and I like that fine. The main thing dear is hearing from you. Please write me often for if I fail to hear from you I don't know what I'll do since you are alone.

We are having our revival this week. I haven't been able to attend all the services but have enjoyed those I did very much. Dr. Hunter of McComb is doing the preaching. Our pastor is a good singer and leader so we've had good singing. Vicki came down tonight and she said it had been a long time since she had heard such good music.

Sgt. York will be here tomorrow and I am very anxious to see it for everybody says it is grand. It's been here twice and I missed it so think I'll cut church and see it. Saw Air Flight last week and think it's fine.

The quartet sang tonight and I thought our Coby did fine. I'm making her a white dress tomorrow to wear in the Easter program Sun. The [unreadable] club and quartet are going to give a program at church Sun. Will be Robert Brock's first Easter. Sue seems a little excited for her. She never gets all in the air over anything. Very little candy and other things for Easter and you pay dear for the little there is. Be my same fine brave crew chief and keep praying darling. [unreadable] love mother



No. \_\_\_\_\_



Mrs. Bessie Thornhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi

S/Sgt. T.B. Thornhill  
(Sender's name)  
72nd Bomb Sq. APO 708  
(Sender's address)  
San Francisco  
March 21, 1943  
(Date)

Just when I decide to use nothing but V-mail I get a letter from you saying you don't like it - that it takes all the feeling out of the meaning of a letter. I have discovered I can let you hear from us more often via V-mail than by regular mail - I searched for this discovery because you like to hear from us often. If you would rather I write the other method I will do so. Let me know by return mail. Until then I will use this type.

I saw Dear Gerson in "Random Harvest" last night. It was a good picture. Bob saw it for the second time. The major and the minor is on the island - I hope to see it before it leaves here.

The letter of February 26 from you came yesterday. It was a V-mail but that is a letter now - I am use to them. If you can't get use to them I will use air mail.

The electrical problems that I have to work are stiff one. They are about Series, Parallel and Series Parallel Circuits. If I master them I will be a genius. I will continue to study them even though I don't get the full meaning.

The food is good - Climate is not too bad. We are under worked - Plenty of time to read - write and sleep.

Continue to be happy mother dear. We will do the same. We didn't ask to put a stop to it.

V...-MAIL

Love & kisses Bob & Brock



S/Sgt T.B. Thornhill  
72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb.Sq. A 80708  
c/o PM San Francisco  
March 21, 1943

Just when I decide to use nothing but V-mail I get a letter from you saying you don't like it-that it takes all the feeling out of the meaning of a letter. I have discovered I can let you hear from us more often via Vmail that by regular mail-I searched for this discovery because you like to hear from us often. If you would rather I write the other method I will do so. Let me know by return mail. Until then I will use this type.

I saw Greer Garson in "Random Harvest" last night. It was a good picture. Bob saw it for the second time. The major and the Minor is on the Island-I hope to see it before it leaves here.

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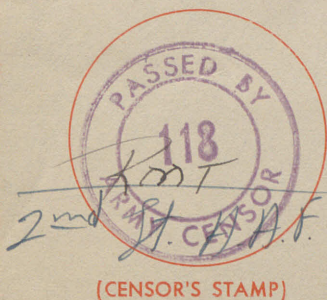
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Love and kisses, Bob and Brock



No. \_\_\_\_\_



Mrs. Bessie Thornhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi

S/Sgt. T.B. Thornhill  
(Sender's name)  
72nd Bomb Sq APO 708  
(Sender's address)  
8th San Francisco, Cal  
March 22, 1943  
(Date)

How are my lovely ones today. The twins are in the pink. We are in the best health. I think the hot cakes for breakfast has something to do with it. I didn't eat but three with plenty of butter and syrup.

The show I saw last night, "Life begins at Eight-thirty" was played by Monte Woody and Ida Lupino. He played his part well so did she. — I did more looking than listening when she was on the screen. She looks like I think all women should look. No matter what angle you look from she is lovely. There are not many movie actresses in her class.

A letter that I wrote Maxine in January came back to me yesterday. She hasn't moved do you think. I will check with either Bob or a couple days ago.

A long sweet letter from Mrs. Cady came yesterday. She spoke like Ciochan government will return to Honolulu soon. I couldn't tell the difference in the way each govern while I was there.

What do you think of this. Dr. Young, eminent surgeon, attended the unveiling of a bust of him self at a university. After the ceremonies a young woman came up to him. "I hope you appreciate, she said, "that I have come 30 miles to see your bust unveiled." whereupon, with a bow, Dr. Young, replied, "I would go a thousand to see yours!"

V...-MAIL

Love & Kisses  
Bob & Brock



S/Sgt. T.B. Thornhill  
72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb. Sq. APO 708  
c/o PM San Francisco, Cal.  
March 22, 1943

How are my lovely ones today. The twins are in the pink. We are in the best of health. I think the hot cakes for breakfast has something to do with it. I didn't eat but three with plenty of butter and syrup.

The show I saw last night, "Life begins at Eight-Thirty" was played by Monte Woody and Ida Lupino. He played his part well so did she – I did more looking than listening when she was on the screen. She looks like I think all women should look. No matter what angle you look from she is lovely. There are not many movie actresses in her class.

A letter that I wrote Maxine in January came back to me yesterday. She hasn't moved do you think. I will check with letter Bob got a couple of days ago.

A long sweet letter from Mrs. Cady came yesterday. She spoke like Civilian Government will return to Honolulu soon. I couldn't tell the difference in the way each govern while I was there.

What do you think of this. Dr. Young, imminent surgeon, attended the unveiling of a bust of himself at a University. After the ceremonies a young woman came up to him "I hope you appreciate" she said "that I have come 50 miles to see your bust unveiled" whereupon with a bow Dr. Young replied "I would go a thousand to see your"

Love and Kisses,

Bob and Brock





## THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS CO.

PAINTS, VARNISHES, LACQUERS, LEADS, OILS, ENAMELS,  
BRUSHES AND PAINTERS' SPECIALTIES.

320 EAST STATE STREET

ITHACA, N.Y.

March 26, 1943

Dearest Aunt Bess:

Now look here young lady just because your daughter has started to write me again thats no sign that you can stop. I haven't had a letter from you in months, oh yes I know you are busy but darn it so am I.

Ava sent me some pictures, guess you knew about it, and did I appreciate them. That Sue Carol is about the prettiest thing I have ever laid my two peepers on, honest I could have just hugged her. I bet Robert Brock is a darling to, he looks like Major and Sue Carol looks like Ava and him. Anyway what I am trying to say is that are both darlings.

Gosh Betty Jean has really grown, doesn't seem possible. What a good looking girl she has made, mother always said she was going to make a beautiful girl. I got to thinking about the time when she and I went fishing down at the cove, when I was looking at the pictures, and honest I had the best laugh you ever saw all to myself. Ask her if she still remembers us falling down the embankment and having so much fun.

Haven't heard from aunt Nora in quite awhile, said she wasn't feeling any too well the last time she wrote. I wrote her a long letter about three weeks ago and thought sure I would get an answer by now. Somehow my letters haven't been getting to her for she said she hadn't heard from me in about five months only a Xmas card.

We are having some beautiful weather up here now and hoping it will continue. I wrote the boys yesterday a two page letter and told me all the news I could possibly got hold of, and of course a lot of foolishness along with it.

Dell's sheep have begun to lamb now, the first came last night a pair of twins and they are the cutest things, black as the ace of spades. One of his sows had 11 pigs last week, so looks like the Hammond's have gone into having things, all but me.

Am expecting Jep tomorrow at 4:00 P.M. and will I be glad to see her. She spent the week with Dell's sister down in Hawthorn, N.J. They called me Sunday night and said she wouldn't be up until tomorrow for Pat had planned a lot of things for them to do. That gal sure has a good time and doesn't know it.

By the way while I think of it. Do you think it would be possible to get me a bushel of sweet ~~potatoes~~ potatoes and send me, could send them by freight or express, which ever you wanted to do but let me know ahead so I can send you the money in advance. Also if you have some pecans I would love to have some as it is almost impossible to get them up here and when you do you have to pay six prices for them. Let me know if you can do this for me honey.



Ava wrote me she had most of her garden planted. Boy it is hard to imagine for it will be a month at least before we dare plant anything.

Don't guess I know any more today but thought I would at least drop you a line and let you know things are going with the Hammond's.

Let me hear from you darling and know I love you dearly and will try to do better about writing. Tell Betty Jean I would love to hear from my cousin "Bettsy" some time.

Lovingly,

Maxine

W. R. Hammond  
Mrs Blackwell  
Tyler Towne



Jalmar Brock Thornhill  
5/597. 72nd Bomb Sq. G.P.M.  
San Francisco, California  
March 26, 1943

Dearest Mother and B.J.

I have no V. mail so I will write you a real letter. From what you told me about V. mail I think you will enjoy an air mail letter. So much has happened in the pass twenty-four hours that I don't know where to begin telling you. First of all it was a good night for a show last night. We took advantage of such by seeing "The Street of Chance". It wasn't what I would like to see but it served as a pass time. It was a murder story.

I returned home, washed my feet and went to bed. Even if I take a shower I have to wash my feet again before going to bed for my shoes are dirty or muddy or sandy in side. You see I don't want to soil my sheets.

I slept well. I had a dream but I don't recall it at the present. When I got up this morning at five o'clock to see my ship off the sky was clear. After breakfast the sun came up. It has been out all day.



The sun shine felt warm enough to dry clothes so I washed this morning. I hope to take in my white clothes to night. I will leave the dark ones out until to morrow.

There wasn't any work for me to do so I helped mother bag change spark plugs on his plane. we checked them - they are ok.

Another laugh for you - It goes as follows -

"I want offer you a cocktail, Mr. Brown," said the hostess, "since you are head of the Temperance League"

"No, I am president of the Anti-Vice League."

"Oh. Well, I knew there was something I shouldn't offer you."

How are you girls and the elder girls children? I would ask about you hat - I know you are feeling young and gay and as happy as can be with the present condition.

Did you see in the paper where Mandy Bunt has been bombed for the 98<sup>th</sup> time this month. If such is continued there should be no Munda Bunt soon.

Give my love to all. I will see you again soon. Love & Kisses. Your love  
Bet & Brock



Talmadge Brock Thornhill  
S/Sgt. 72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb. Sq. c/o PM  
San Francisco, California  
March 26, 1943

Dearest Mother and B.J.

I have no V.mail so I will write you a real letter. From what you told me about V.mail I think you will enjoy an air mail letter. So much has happened in the pass twenty four hours that I don't know where to begin telling you. First of all it was a good night for a show last night. We took advantage of such by seeing "The Street of Chance". It wasn't what I would like to see but it serves as a good pass time. It was a murder story.

I returned home, washed my feet and went to bed. Even if I take a shower I have to wash my feet again before going to bed for my shoes are dirty or muddy or sandy inside. You see I don't want to soil my sheets.

I slept well. I had a dream but I don't recall it at the present. When I got up this morning at five o'clock to see my ship off the sky was clear. After breakfast the sun came up. It has been out all day.

The sunshine felt warm enough to dry clothes so I washed this morning. I hope to take in my white clothes tonight. I will have the dark ones out until tomorrow.

There wasn't any work for me to do so I helped another boy change spark plugs on his plane. We checked them-they are ok.

Another laugh for you-It hoes as follows-"I won't offer you a cocktail, Mr. Brown", said the hostess, "since you are head of the Temperance League"

"No, I am president of the Anti-Vice league"

"Oh well, I knew there was something I should not offer you.

How are you girls and the elder girls children? I would ask about you but I know you are feeling young and gay and as happy as can be with the present condition.

Did you see in the paper where Munola Point has been bombed for the 98<sup>th</sup> time this month. If such is continued there should be no Munola Point soon.

Give my love to all. I well see you again soon. Love and kisses

Your boys Bob and Brock



Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

TO  
 1. ~~10~~ TALLAGE, THORNTON  
 7322 BOM. S. GROUP (H)  
 APO. H 708. 6 POSTMASTER.  
 SAN FRANCISCO.  
 CALIF.

From

MRS BESSIE THORNTON  
 (Sender's name)

MAGNOLIA, MISS  
 (Sender's address)

BOX 205

MARCH 28. 43

(Date)

Hello Son. I must mention the weather for we have  
 have had such bad weather for days. Yesterday and  
 today is what you would call ideal. I'm expecting  
 a breeze to help in my garden tomorrow and hope  
 the sun continues to shine. Feel sure it will for  
 the sky a solid sheet of blue.

Just read the chapter you ask me to give you my  
 view point on - 1. Corinthians - 7th verse. First I think  
 Paul went this month to preach and other religious  
 leaders. Meaning that one could do better work for the  
 Lord if not burdened with the care and responsi-  
 bility of a wife and family. However he says if  
 one should feel the desire for the privileges of marriage  
 it is best that they marry. And too you notice Paul said  
 I speak this by permission and not of commandment.  
 Paul wasn't married and didn't have the desire for  
 the wife thing so he had a right to think others to  
 be like him. I think this could be the chapter where  
 the Catholics got their belief of Priesthood and Sisterhood  
 We've already been told that they should avoid fornication  
 that each should have their own husband and wife  
 and be faithful to each other. I want my boys to marry  
 some sweet clean girl and be just as sweet and  
 clean as they expect their wife. Do you do this you  
 can bring glory to your sibling and to God.

Well, with another letter from Bob dated the 22nd  
 and mailed the 23rd. Don't that surprise you? Said you  
 had made stuff and he seemed so happy over it. Said you  
 just didn't get the good news. That's what I thought  
 too darling. I love you.  
 V-MAIL  
 (Stamp: RECEIVED MAIL ROOM - MAR 30 1943)



March 28, 1943

Hello Son, (Brock)

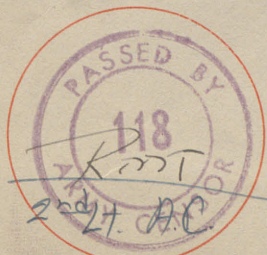
I must mention the weather for we have had such bad weather for days. Yesterday and today is what you would call ideal. I'm expecting a negro to help in my garden tomorrow and hope the sun continues to shine. Feel sure it will for the sky is a solid sheet of blue.

Just read the chapter you asked me to give my viewpoint on – I Corinthians 7<sup>th</sup> verse. First I think that Paul meant this mostly to preachers and other [unreadable] leaders. Meaning that one could do better work for the Lord if not if not burdened with the care and responsibilities of a wife and family. However he says if one should feel the desire for the privileges of marriage it is best that they marry. And too you notice that Paul did speak this by permission and not by commandment. Paul wasn't married and didn't have the desire for the evil things so he had a right to think others to be like him. I think this could be the chapter where the Catholics get their belief of Priesthood and Sisterhood. We've already been told that [unreadable] should avoid fornication that each should have their own husbands and wife and be faithful to each other. I want my boys to marry some sweet clean girls and be just as sweet and clean as they expect their wife. If you do this you can bring glory to yourselves and to God.

Well, [unreadable] another letter from Bob dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> and mailed the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Don't they service for you? Said you had made Staff and seemed so happy over it. Said you just hadn't got the good marks that he had. [unreadable]



No. \_\_\_\_\_



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mrs. Bessie Thornhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi

S/Sgt. T.B. Thornhill  
(Sender's name)

72nd Bomb Sq. APO 708  
(Sender's address)

San Francisco, Cal

March 30, 1943  
(Date)

Hello Darlings, just a few words to let you know your sons are well, happy, lucky, and thinking of you. Bob didn't get to write you the letter I spoke of; he was called out on business. Now that I write you more often he writes less. I see his point in a way but you don't for you like to see his signature. If you will be patient he will get in the habit of writing just as I do.

I saw Gene butty in "Melody Ranch" last night. Last night I saw "The March of Dimes" and "Army Surgeon". Both served as past time.

Yesterday and to day were filled with honest labor for we checked all valves (72), changed forty-five spark plugs, and made a fifty-hour inspection. It usually takes four days for this job was completed by my crew and I in two days.

I received a wonderful letter from Mrs. Emerson to-day. She is a swell writer. I always enjoy her letters. She and Mrs. Cady write similar letters.

I heard from Barbara also but her letter was dry as usual. I won't hesitate to answer her letters for I don't like to re-read them. I write her occasionally though to let her know I haven't forgotten the family.

I will be with you again soon. Give me a good night kiss so I will have a sweet dream of you. Give my love to the family & friends

V...-MAIL

Bob & Brock



S/Sgt. T.B. Thornhill  
72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb. Sq. APO 708  
c/o PM. San Francisco  
March 30, 1943

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Bob and Brock



Dr. Tolomeo Brock & Co. Inc.  
12th St. S. & 1st Ave. (14)  
A.P. O. 708 P.O. Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

Mr. Major Page  
(Mother's name)

306 Alameda Ave.  
(Mother's address)

M. J. Connel, Miss U.S.A.

April 2, 1943  
(Date)

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

April 2, '43

Dearest Brock.

My letters seem to be some old story in the same old way. Every day is so much the same & I never know what to write. Major & Sue are still gone.

Betty Marie was out yesterday shopping. She's sure making a cute kid. They're building more to their house & fixing it. They have lights & water also. She said Aunt Mattie's kid had was married again aint that something? Now you have a step Ma & just hope the nurse comes back here soon you?

My boy is a cutie. He's 100% boy. What I'd give for you & Bob to see him now. He's a mess. I bought him a suit & a little white cap. Think you'll be here to help me celebrate his 1st birthday.

John is on maneuvers now & thinks he won't be at Shelby any more in fact all boys from there think they're over their way over. He's hating stuff now. He's quite a shirk even in a uniform. He still manages a good with an automobile. I can't say I thought much of that one he had tho'. He's a cat.

Ray will be uncle in few weeks. Melba sure looks good.

I sold baby buggy & got me a stroller. I was looking for you can't get new one any more. This one looks nice to be second hand tho'. I also have him a new chair that's awfully cute.

Must get to my house work but I wanted to get a note off to you first. I wrote this & sipped my coffee. I'd like a sweet letter from you. Always yours, Ann



April 3, 1943

Dearest Brock,

My letters seem to be same ole story in the same ole way. Every day is much the same and never know what to write. Major and Sue are still gone.

Betty Marie was out yesterday shopping. She's sure making a cute girl. There building more to chain house & painting it. They have lights and water also. She said Aunt Mattie and dad was married again. Ain't that something? Now you have a step ma. I just hope he never comes back here. Don't you?

My boy is a cutter. He is 100% boy. Oh what I'd give for you and Bob to see him now. He's a mess. I brought him a suit and a little white cap. Think you'll be her to help me celebrate his first birthday

John is on maneuvers now and & thinks he won't be at Shelby anymore in fact all boys from there think they are on their way over. He's rating staff now. He's quite a [unreadable] even in uniform. He still manages a gal with an automobile. I can't say I thought much of last one he had tho'. She's east.

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I sold baby's buggy and got me a stroller. It was lucky for you can't get new ones anymore. This one looks nice to be second hand tho'. I also have him a sun chair that's awfully cute.

Must get to my housework but I wanted to get a note off to you first. I wrote this and sipped my coffee. I'd like a sweet letter from you.

Always yours, Ava



Dr. Tolomeo Brock & Co. Inc.  
 12th St. S. & 1st Ave. (14)  
 A.P. O. 708-90 Postmaster  
 San Francisco, California

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mr. Major Page  
 (Addressee's name)

306 Alameda Ave.  
 (Sender's address)

M. J. Connel, Miss U.S.A.

April 2, 1943  
 (Date)

April 2, '43

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V-MAIL



April 3, 1943

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Must get to my housework but I wanted to get a note off to you first. I wrote this and sipped my coffee. I'd like a sweet letter from you.

Always yours, Ava



My dear Ray; Bob and Brock;

Apr 8-43

You see this is in answer to Ray's letter but as per Bob's I'm sending it to Brock just in case you are on your way here when it arrives.

Thanks for the advise as to not letting the Red Cross get me down - am afraid that it nearly has as I have to admit that I am tired; but good news - I am going to take a week's vacation not see a soul not do a thing but rest, beginning the 17th.

So glad that Joe had a good show - every one seems to agree on it down there. He did not make as good an impression here as they have too much going on all of the time.

You're right you can have the candy while you are home and then we will fix a lot to send back by you when you go or if you know someone who is going.

Tell Rodriguez that I was at Honolulu paper the other day and was visiting with his friend. They say that they do not hear from Rod and for some one to give him a pencil.

We had an interesting time here the other evening. Harold and Kathryn came home ahead of me and Chitoyo to find all cupboard drawers open and all doors open. We looked around and did not see anything missing but later could not find the binoculars. Then missed a flashlight well by that time it was dark and we often lose things then so let it go. The next night we really looked and sure they were both gone. So Harold called the police a detective came up and brot a pack of cards that I knew were mine at once. Then he said the rest of the things were at the police station. Last night he came up and brot them also a quatt of soda water! But a money lei that I had received as a gift with \$3.75 in it was gone as they had spent it. It was three boys two 15 years old and one 16. The USED had dismissed them the schools had let them go and would not take them back and they didn't want to get back - they could not get another job with a dismissal so they robbed 7 houses right here on our block. Two are loose and one in the detention home.

Kathryn is making a dress so that she can wear it to another all night dance. Wish that I could go to a dance with a fellow and come in at eigh the next morning with no questions asked and no neighbors window curtains drawn to one side!!!!.

We are all looking forward to seeing you and having you home. Only wish tht you wer all oming to gether but I suppose since yo two have been there longer you should come home first.

Now for an evenings nap so that I can carry on anothe day I will ceave all of you with a good night kiss - say by the way do I get to collect all of these?

aloha from a Mother that loves all of you.

"Mama"



Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Sgt. T. B. THORNTON 46700920  
7th Bay B. SA. (4)  
A.P.O. 7089, POSTMASTER.  
SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIF.

From

MRS. BESSIE THORNTON  
(Sender's name)

MARION NIES  
(Sender's address)

Box 205

APRIL 13 - 43  
(Date)

My darling. Your mother is still a very busy woman. Planting, weeding and D. I'm feeding 2 people. I planted my garden here and on the half of the big garden at the place last week. Not the night behind my garden planted but want plant before 1 of 5. My plans been making it for a picture so it will have to be planted again and conditioned before planting. Was down out Fri. night so went to Jackson for the truck and. Expected to not but Mamma and Lina could weed out our lawn Fri. so Lina and I did the cooking. Week I went to see mamma looks grand and Lina is better so I'm not worried about them.

I'm going to start dressing my chickens to put in my locker in the cold storage plant. Have 50 left but think will save 6 or 8 nice pullets. Was lucky enough to get a full of poultry wire so can enclose my hen yard. I have 4 hens but want to add another dozen.

Bob's Cable, Came Sun. night just before I reached here. So am glad to get it and hope it won't be long before I get one from you from there. Was got a letter from Barbara, yesterday, saying they were making plans for Bob's return. Think like me she was

pleased for the two of you, and hoping you would soon follow. She had just received a letter from you and seemed rather elated. Have you ever asked your commanding officer about whether or not there is a chance of your returning to the States soon.

I hear a so many girls returned after a year and more and I think you must come home. My mother and father are waiting for you. Love you both.



April 13, 43

My Darling, (Brock)

Your mother is still a very busy woman counting Betty and I I'm feeding 22 people besides raising chickens and farming. I planted my garden here and over half of the big garden at the place last week. Got the big lot behind my garden plowed but won't plant before the first of May. Have been using it for a pasture so it will have to be plowed [unreadable] and conditioned before planting. I was worn out Friday night so I went to Jackson for the weekend. Expected to rest but mama and Lena cook walked out on them Friday so Lena and I did the cooking. Glad I went there mama looks good and Lena is better so I am not worried about them.

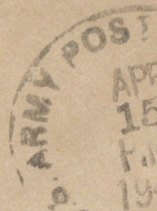
I'm going to start dressing my chickens to put in my locker in the cold storage plant. Have 50 left but I think I'll save 6 or 8 nice pullets. Was lucky enough to get a roll of poultry wire so I can enlarge my hen yard. I have 14 hens but would like to add another dozen.

Bob's cable came Sun. night just before I reached home. Was so glad to get it and hope it won't be long before I get one from you from there. Ava got a letter from Barbara yesterday saying they were making big plans for Bob's return, and like me she was wishing it was for the two of you and hoping you would soon follow. She had just received a letter from you and seemed rather elated. Have you ever asked your commanding officer about whether or not there's a chance of your returning to the states soon. I hear of so many that returned after a year and more of service [damage and unreadable] Love you darling, mother



Tahmazel Brock Thornhill  
51 Sgt. 72nd Bomb Sq APO 708  
90 San Francisco, California

AMERICAN RED CROSS



Mrs. Bessie Thornhill

Box 205

Nagnolia, Mississippi



Recd



Jamage Brock Thornhill  
S/Sgt. 72nd Bomb. Sq. APO 708  
90 Pm. San Francisco, California  
April 13, 1943

Dearest Darlings,

The mail came through to day.

One letter from Betty Jean, One from Aunt  
Dora, one from Ava and five from Mother.  
These are dated from March 17 to March  
23. These letters should have come two  
weeks ago. Air mail came to day mailed  
April 3. Luck has proved to me that  
V. mail is a laugh.

Betty Jean you may purchase you  
the best and put that evening clothes  
in the State of Mississippi for we  
are going to spend an evening or  
two at Uncle Buds when I return.  
I assure you that your presents there  
with me will not be a disgrace.

The only way to win a basket ball  
game is to throw the ball through  
the ring. If you made  $\frac{3}{4}$  of your shots



you should shoot all the time.

you were wrong about the date  
Buh sailed. He sailed one month  
later. He is now in the land of  
Paradise plenty happy no doubt. I  
am here alone and happy to be in good  
health.

you spoke of soldiers visiting the  
homes. It is okay to visit nice homes  
if the host or hostess knows what  
a soldier would like to do. I don't  
know how you entertained them but  
I do have a suggestion. What Boye  
line for is female companion ship. If  
you have boys come to your house for an  
evening or dinner by all means have  
a date for them and arrange for them  
to go out to a movie or for a few  
minutes at a night club. While you  
are selecting girls for your house parties  
you may look around for a couple  
that I may be interesting in.

Bethje Jean can serve as a co-adviser.



I would like to fly back but that is out. When we leave we will leave our planes here for <sup>somebody</sup> ~~some one~~ <sup>god, m?</sup> else to use. The most convenient way will be by transport; therefore, we will go by sea.

Gabe <sup>my cousin</sup> may be part of the company that will relieve our medical company. I hope he will be sent across the Atlantic instead for this is no place for a white man.

Tell Mrs. Byrd that I will do all I can to get her sons out of prison. I am glad they are prisoners and not corpse. They do have a chance of returning home.

You are wrong about the allotment for I sign the papers last week for it to be discontinued; it was the governments idea. You want get governments checks so you will have to take from our checks the amount you need.



The weather was rather wet in  
your town the month of March. I  
do hope you will have a dry season  
for a change. I know what it is  
like to live in the rain. We  
have showers here occasionally.

Harold Sounce and Collins Cooper  
came over last night with a case  
of beer and a bucket of ~~grass~~ ice.  
We drove to a show to see "Gordon  
my Sarong". We stayed out late  
for Collins is leaving for Australia  
soon. If you see right of the parents  
tell them their boys are doing their  
part and are in good health.

I am sleepy so I will leave you  
now and pay a visit to my bed. I  
slept this afternoon but I am  
still sleepy.

Love and luck to you with  
a big good night kiss  
Always,  
Gus



Talmage Brock Thornhill  
S/Sgt. 72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb. Sq. APO 708  
c/o PM. San Francisco, California  
April 13, 1943

Dearest Darlings,

The mail came through today. One letter from Bettye Jean, one from Aunt Dora, one from Ava, and five from Mother. These are dated from March 17 to March 23. These letters should have come two weeks ago. Air mail came today mailed April 3. Such has proved to me that V-mail is a laugh.

Bettye Jean you may purchase you the best and prettiest evening clothes in the State of Mississippi for we are going to spend an evening or two at Uncle Buds when I return. I assure you that your presents there with me will not be a disgrace.

The only way to win a basketball game is to throw the ball through the ring. If you made  $\frac{3}{4}$  of your shots you should shoot all the time.

You were wrong about the date Bob sailed. He sailed on month later. He is now in the land of Paradise plenty happy no doubt. I am here alone and happy to be in good health.

You spoke of soldiers visiting the home. It is okay to visit nice homes if the host or hostess knows what a soldier would like to do. I don't know how you entertained them but I do have a suggestion. What Boys live for is female companionship. If you have boys come to your house for an evening or dinner by all means have a date for them and arrange for them to go out to a movie or for a few minutes at a night club. While you are selecting girls for your house parties you may look around for a couple that I may be interesting in. Bettye Jean can serve as a co-advisor.

I would like to fly back but that is out. When we leave we will leave our planes here for someone else to use. The most convenient way will be by transport; therefore we will go by sea.

John, my cousin, may be part of the company that will relieve our medical company. I hope he will be sent across the Atlantic instead for this is no place for a white man.

Tell Mrs. Byrd that I will do all I can to get her sons out of prison. I am glad they are prisoners and not corpses. The do have a chance of returning home.

You are wrong about the allotment for I sign the papers last week for it to be discontinued; it was the government's idea. You won't get government checks so you will have to take from our checks the amount you need.

The weather was rather wet in your town the month of March. I do hope you will have a dry season for a change. I know what it is like to live in the rain. We have showers here occasionally. Harold Spence and Collins Cooper came over last night with



a case of beer and a bucket of ice. We drove to a show to see "Pardon My Sarong". We stayed out late for Collins is leaving for Australia soon. If you see right of the parents tell them their boys are doing their part and are in good health.

I am sleepy so I will leave you now and pay a visit to my bed. I slept this afternoon but I am still sleepy.

Love and luck to you with a big good night kiss

Always

Brock



Talmag Bros Thornhill 702200  
5/597 72nd Bomb Sq APO 708  
AMERICAN RED CROSS  
908m. San Francisco, Calif.



Mrs. Bessie Thornhill  
P. O. Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi





Talmage & Thornhill  
1st Lt 72nd Cont Bg AB0708  
Rm. San Francisco, Calif.  
April 16, 1943.

Hello Darlings,

Its a beautiful day. I am well

I am happy. I am thinking of you.

I don't want to write a letter &  
only want you to know that I

love you. If I did want to  
write a letter I couldn't for I

am not in the mood. One  
thing that is noticeable now

day is Navy versus Army. The

Navy leads 10 to 0 in the first  
round. The navy has six movies

with a show every night. The

Army has two movies with a  
show twice a week. The Navy



Navy personell has an Area and  
the Army has an Area. We are stopped  
my M.P.' if we are caught tres-  
passing. Our transportation want  
even let us have a truck to go to  
those movies. This place is getting  
to civilized for me. There is always  
something to interfere with pleasure.

My Airplane is still giving me  
trouble. I have given it an over-  
haul and I still have trouble that  
I can't find. Maybe we will have  
better luck to morrow.

Keep your chin up darling  
This world will be peaceable  
again. I hope to see you soon.  
Remember that I love you dearly

Bob



Talmadge B Thornhill  
S/Sgt 72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb. Sq. APO 708  
c/o PM San Francisco, Calif  
April 16, 1943

Hello Darlings,

It's a beautiful day. I am well. I am happy. I am thinking of you. I don't want to write a letter I only want you to know that I love you. If I did want to write a letter I couldn't for I am not in the mood. One thing that is noticeable now day is Navy vs Army. The Navy leads 10 to 0 in the first round. The Navy has six movies with a show every night. The army has two movies with a show twice a week. The Navy personnel has an area and the Army has an area. We are stopped my M.P.s if we are caught trespassing. Our transportation won't even let us have a truck to go to those movies. This place is getting to civilize for me. There is always something to interfere with pleasure.

My airplane is still giving me trouble. I have given it an overhaul and I still have trouble that I can't find. Mabey we will have better luck tomorrow.

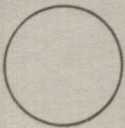
Keep you chins up darlings. This world will be peaceable again. I hope to see you soon. Remember that I love you dearly.

Love

Brock



No.



CHUCK'S STAMP

Robert Selma, Brock, Shubert  
 7241 Brock, Shubert, W.  
 A. P. O. 708 4th Street  
 San Francisco, California

Mrs. Major Pope  
 (Charles's name)  
 366 Nebraska Ave.  
 (Charles's address)  
 M. C. C. Co., Miss. 154

April 19, 1943

April 19, 1943

Dearest Brock:

well & got that long wait for letter Saturday.  
 you spoke as tho' you hadn't heard from me for some  
 time. They're on the way for sure certainly written.

Mother had letter from Bob. He seemed wonderfully  
 happy over trip he took & thrilled over having reached  
 his present destination. Have you heard from him?  
 we drove down to Camp yesterday me! It's really  
 beautiful there now. Aunt Nora wants to have  
 family reunion there for you & Bob when you come  
 home. Won't that be swell? Hope it won't be too far  
 away. How about on your birthday? I think you'll  
 make it by then ?? What if you'd say something.

Keep up your good work in your electrical course  
 your big brother is really proud of you. You know  
 that's his life. He has lots of "Electrical Worlds"  
 for you to read & study. He has lots of books & magazines  
 you'll enjoy.

we went out Saturday night. First time in couple months  
 went to Kirtwood for supper then to "Uncle Rondo Cabin".  
 we really had fun. Then Major had to go out to work  
 right after we got home (3 A.M.) & worked till 2 P.M.  
 yesterday eve. He was really tired.

Robert Brock is a mess now. He's really getting  
 fussy now. He makes Sue Pope stop around.  
 Well really have her on the go in couple months.  
 I'm sure glad to see Summer weather for them both.  
 They both have to stay outside. I'm writing this  
 before cleaning my house up so speak & better  
 get busy - write soon. With all my love - Dad

V...- MAIL



April 19, 1943

Dearest Brock,

Well I got that long waited for letter on Saturday. You spoke as though you hadn't heard from me for some time. They're on the way for I've certainly written.

Mother got a letter from Bob. He seemed wonderfully happy over trip he took & thrilled over having [unreadable] his present destination. Have you heard from him?

We drove down to camp yesterday eve. It's really beautiful there now. Aunt Nora wants to have family reunion there for you and Bob when you come home. Won't that be swell? Hope it won't be too far away. How about on your birthday? Think you'll make it by then?? Wish you'd say something.

Keep up your good work in your electrical course. Your big brother is really proud of you. You know that's his life. He has lots of "Electrical Worlds" for you to read and study. He has lots of books and magazines you will enjoy.

We went out Saturday night. First time in couple of months. Went to Kentwood for supper then "Uncle Paul's Cabin". We really had fun. Then Major had to go to work right after we got home (3am) and worked until 2pm yesterday evening. He was really tired.

Robert Brock is a mess now. He really is fussy now. He makes Sue Pope step around. He'll really have her on the go in a couple of months. I'm sure glad to see summer weather for them both. They both love to stay outside. I'm writing this before cleaning my house up so spect I better get busy-write soon.

With all my love, Ava



Fill in complete address in plain black letters in the postal boxes, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write quickly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.



ZIP CODE STAMP

21st Avenue, Berkeley, Cal. 947  
 12th Bond Lane, New York  
 A.P.O. 708, Postmaster  
 San Juan Cito, California

Mr. Major, 1st Ave.  
 306 Delaware Ave.  
 1011 Bond, Miss.  
 April 21, 1943

Dearest Brook:

April 23/43

Now I am beginning another day by getting a note off to you. I'm writing & sipping my coffee. all in one. Must admit my mind isn't functioning very well so pardon anything that doesn't make sense. I'm pretty stiff this morn'g for I began my house cleaning yesterday. Did all of house except my bedroom kitchen. Hope to finish them by Friday.

I'm trying to buy me a machine. I must save for this summer. Really made things are stry. I had long letter from Bob yesterday. He said you had one by now. He really seems excited about the net? I'm looking forward to getting one from you something like that. won't be long I'm sure. where is C. what you or do you know?

My husband left for Leicester to be gone till today. I'm such an awful pathetic girl that I see him back to leave home. He has home & can't stay there.

I'm gonna give mother a permanent some time this week when they get abaggy. Really they really come crawling to me. I could be working all time now. I have shops here begging for help but I don't have anyone to have kids with. Can't say I'm to anxious to anyway. I have my hands full right here. Keeping my home fire burning. Two kids, 6 room house with two rooms rented, yard & garden to care for. You see why I'm always going in circles. Must close & get this mailed. With all my love.

3:6

V - MAIL



April 21, 1943

Dearest Brock,

Here I am beginning another day by getting a note off to you. I'm writing and sipping my coffee-all in one. Must admit my mind isn't functioning very well so pardon anything that doesn't make sense. I am pretty stiff this morning for I began my house cleaning yesterday. Did all of house except my bedroom and kitchen. Hope to finish them by Friday.

I'm trying to buy me a machine. I must sew for kids this summer. Ready made things are sky hi.

I had long letter from Bob yesterday. I'm sure you've had one by now. He really seems spirited, is he not? I'm looking forward to getting one from you sounding like that. Won't be long I'm sure. When is J.C. with you or do you know?

My husband left for Gloster to be gone till Friday. It's such an awful place to go. I hate to see him have to leave home. He has a home and can't stay there.

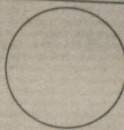
I'm gonna give mother a permanent sometime this week. When they get shaggy headed they really come crawling to me. I could be washing all time now. Three shops here begging for help but I don't have anyone to leave kids with. Can't say I am too anxious to anyway. I have my hands full right here "keeping my home fires burning", two kids, 6 room house with two rooms rented, yard and garden to care for. You see why I'm always going in circles. Must close and get this mailed.

With all my love, Sis



Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To  
S/SGT. TALMAGE BROCK, TROOP 101  
700 BONS GROUP (C)  
APO 708, 7, PCT MASTER  
SAN FRANCISCO.  
CALIF.

From

MRS BESSIE T. BROCK  
(Sender's name)

MARADIA ALIES  
(Sender's address)

APRIL 22-42

(Date)

Hello Darling, I wonder how you are feeling tonight. Your letter of March 30th came to day. As you thought I had heard from Bob, after his arrival at 952. With a smile and happy and I'm happy for him. Some that my happiness is fully completed for I can't say one his good luck for thinking of you. I know darling that you can take it and I'm very proud of you being so brave and fine about it. We got letter from Bob couple of days ago. saying he felt some you would follow soon. Also he said "We are going to get a break at least it seems. We will have a chance to come home for 30 days and return here or home for 30 days and report in state for reassignment." Said he was going to take the state for him and I feel sure you will feel the same. I do hope you follow soon and can come on together. I'm praying real hard darling I also get a long letter from Barbara telling me of Bob and Kate just visit with them. She also told me of Ray having malaria. No wonder his folks didn't hear from him. Remember writing me you didn't know when Ray hadn't been writing. Oh I know you haven't told. You say I would have been through I pray it will soon be over. Hope I haven't written you all this before I write so often I never know what I've said or left unsaid. Love you  
Mother.



April 22, 43

Hello Darling, (Brock)

I wonder how you are feeling tonight. Your letter of March 30<sup>th</sup> came today. As you thought I heard from Bob after his arrival at 952. He was thrilled and happy and I'm happy for him. Seems that my happiness can't be complete for I can't rejoice over his good luck for thinking of you. I know darling that you can take it and I am very proud of you being so brave and fine about it. We got a letter from Bob a couple of days ago saying he felt sure you would follow soon. Also he said we are going to get a buck at last it seems. We will have a chance to come home for 30 days and report in states for reassignment. Said he was going to take our state for his and felt sure will feel the same. I do hope you follow soon and can come home together. I'm praying real hard darling. I also got a long letter from Barbara telling me of Bob and Ray's first visit with them. She also told me of Ray's having malaria. No wonder his folks didn't hear from him. Remember writing me you didn't know Ray hadn't been writing. I know you haven't told me any of worst you've been through. I pray it will soon be over. Hope I haven't written you all of this before. I write so often I never know what I've said or left unsaid.

I love you son, Mother



25 April 1943

Happy Easter to all,

Here it is my day to go to church and I didn't go! Well I will go next easter maybe. Any one that has been living as stright a life as I have for the past year shouldn't even have to go to church tho; for its almost impossible to do anything too much out of the way. Its been a most beautiful day here, the sun has been out all day and now we have a wonderful sunset over the mountains.

I didn't mention much about the trip in the last letter on account of I was in a hurry and couldn't concentrate on a thing. Fact is I was still running around like a wild man not knowing what I might do next. For the trip it was very quite and uneventful. Of course I was all excited the last day when we were sweating out good old Hawaii. I didn't get to see Brock the last two or three days I was there and the reason he didn't mention me leaving probably was that he didn't even know I had left. I don't think he mind me leaving him much, after all I was down there long before he was. I wouldn't worry about him for he is perfectly safe and staying there don't seem to bother him at all. However I think he will be coming back shortly (just a guess of course). I haven't heard from him since I arrived but I realize how hard it is to write letters there. I have written him a couple of time and will probably write in a couple of days.

Since I arrived here I have been on the go most all the time. As I said before I was at Wall's the first night but hadn't been back. I just don't get any kick out of going up there - maybe id they would bring some of that good beer or rum out I would get a bigger kick out of it Huh! I have been up at Emersons twice and had a marvelous time. She insisted on me coming up to day but didn't feel up to par therefore I didn't go. I also was up at Mrs Cadys a couple of times and enjoyed it imensley. Mrs Cady had a quart of Rum she was saving for me and we drank rumcoke and were they good! Mrs Emerson had a quart of Bourbon which was very good also. I meet a Mrs Springs the other day and was down to see her one night. She is a very nice person also and told me to come back any time I could get off. I am just waiting until I meet one with a daughter about twenty years old and then they will have to run me off.

I had lots of fun this afternoon. A couple of the boys and myself went bowling this after noon and they had been bowling quite some time and was pretty good. For me I had never had a bowling ball in my hand and I went down and played three games with them. By the way I won the third game which did me lots of good. It seems that I was very lucky or some thing for everytime I threw the ball I amde a strick which is pretty good. I like the game lots and too it good excrise. I have been so sore the past few days I could hardly walk. We were out playing ball and of course I am not use to too much excrise.

Ray and I are going to the big Island tomorrow for five days. I expect to have a darn good time, and too I have wanted to go over there since I arrive here. We have several addresses so we shouldn't have too much trouble. They kinda caught me short on money but I have \$100. and in case I need more I can borrow it.



I received a V-Mail from you to day and sounds as tho you are going to have plenty to eat. Its a darn good idea and having the farm you should have plenty of everything. Is the negro rasing any hogs, calves or anything for you. I think You should make some kind of arrangment with him so as to have plenty of meat. There is no excuse for anyone with a farm being with out plenty to eat and in time to come I imagine you will need everything you can raise there.

By the way speaking of the V-Mail I had rather you write letters for that thing is very discourging. Too it seems that the other comes just as fast. I never did like the damn things anyway. If you hadn't got perfect light you can't read it. Another thing time you get started reading you are all pau (through). Speaking of Grandmothers birthday, I doubt if I will be there by then but its nothing I would enjoy more than being there. Then I could see everyone at one time and know it would be lots of fun. Well maybe we can work something similar to that because I am not going to have time to run all over the country seeing everyone. By the way how is the girl situation there. Hope there are plenty of them!

Had a letter from Ava the other day and she seems to be rather busy. Glad to hear the kids are well again. I wrote a letter to Hilda yesterday congratulating her. I suspose she is married by now, at least I hope she is before I get home.

I didn't know I was so short of clothes until I got here and started buying shoes uniforms and etc. It cost so darn much to have them cleaned and pressed. I don't mind tho as long as I don't have to do it myself.

I have one more letter I have to write to night so will see you later. Give my love to all.

Love

Bob



25 April 1943

Happy Easter to all,

Here it is my day to go to church and I didn't go! Well I will go next easter maybe. Any one that has been living as stright a life as I have for the past year shouldn't even have to go to church tho; for its almost impossible to do anything too much out of the way. Its been a most beautiful day here, the sun has been out all day and now we have a wonderful sunset over the mountains.

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Ray and I are going to the big Island tomorrow for five days. I expect to have a darn good time, and too I have wanted to go over there since I arrive here. We have several addresses so we shouldn't have too much trouble. They kinda caught me short on money but I have \$100. and in case I need more I can borrow it.



I received a V-Mail from you to day and sounds as tho you are going to have plenty to eat. Its a darn good idea and having the farm you should have plenty of everything. Is the negro rasing any hogs, calves or anything for you. I think You should make some kind of arrangment with him so as to have plenty of meat. There is no excuse for anyone with a farm being with out plenty to eat and in time to come I imagine you will need everything you can raise there.

By the way speaking of the V-Mail I had rather you write letters for that thing is very discourging. Too it seems that the other comes just as fast. I never did like the damn things anyway. If you hadn't got perfect light you can't read it. Another thing time you get started reading you are all pau (through). Speaking of Grandmothers birthday, I doubt if I will be there by then but its nothing I would enjoy more than being there. Then I could see everyone at one time and know it would be lots of fun. Well maybe we can work something similar to that because I am not going to have time to run all over the country seeing everyone. By the way how is the girl situation there. Hope there are plenty of them!

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I didn't know I was so short of clothes until I got here and started buying shoes uniforms and etc. It cost so darn much to have them cleaned and pressed. I don't mind tho as long as I don't have to do it myself.

I have one more letter I have to write to night so will see you later. Give my love to all.

Love

Bob



No.



(GROSSER'S STAMP)

1841. 1841. 1841. 1841.  
1841. 1841. 1841. 1841.  
1841. 1841. 1841. 1841.  
1841. 1841. 1841. 1841.

Mrs. Major L. J. (last name)  
306 Nebraska Ave.  
M. C. Cook, Miss  
April 26, 1943  
(Date)

Dearest Brock:

April 26, 43

Well here's another week in the making, the day after Easter & a kinda let down feeling. We spent right & day at mother's. Had a real quite peaceful day all her leaders were gone but Mr. Bob so we had it all to our self. Saw Carol & her big Easter.

I gave Sue Carol a permanent in tip ends of her hair - took Bob & Brock to barber shop for his first hair cut. Shing both looks sweet. Want to get a snapshot of both.

Major left for Kletter. Begone till Friday. By the way I am the proud possessor of a new Singer Sewing Machine. Seems like a dream come true for I've wanted one for so so long. Mother wants one I hope she'll trade hers in on a new one for they are honey's. Write and encourage her to do so. I'm gonna keep on insisting. I just had to have one to make my to youngsters some summer clothes. Children's clothes are okay, he really made & I can make them sunsets out of scraps.

Well we had two nice long letters from Bob since he arrived. He but he's really going around in circles. He's expecting you to join him soon.

Must close as I'm digging my house in one more mas. Will write again soon. Love you as always - Yours, Sis

V MAIL



April 26, 1943

Dearest Brock,

Well here's another week in the making, the day after Easter & a kinda let down feeling. We spent night and day at mothers. Had a real quiet peaceful day all the boarders were gone but Mr. Bob so we had it all to ourself. Sue Carol had big Easter.

I gave Sue Carol a permanent in tip ends of her hair-took Robert Brock to barber shop for his first haircut. They both look sweet. Want to get a snapshot of both.

Major left for Gloster. Be gone till Friday. By the way I'm the proud possessor of a new singer sewing machine. Seems like a dream come true for I've wanted one for so long. Mother wants one. I hope she'll trade hers in on a new one for they are honeys. Write and encourage her to do so. I'm going to keep on insisting. I just had to have one to make my youngsters some summer clothes. Children's clothes are sky hi ready made & I can make them sun suits out of scraps.

[unreadable] had two nice long letters from Bob since he arrived. Gee but he's really going around in circles. He's expecting you to join him soon.

Must close and start digging. My house in one more mess. Will write again soon.

I love you as always, your Sis



Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

S/SGT. T. B. THORNHILL  
72nd BARRACK COMPANY (H)  
A.P.O. 7085, POSTMASTER  
SAN FRANCISCO  
(A117)

From

MRS BESSIE THORNHILL  
(Sender's name)

MAGNOLIA MISS  
(Sender's address)

BOX 205

APR. 16 26 43  
(Date)

My darling, and I mean my darling. How I would like to get hold of you to night. In forcing my self to think it won't be long till you before your journey back to the home and those that love you dearly.

Got a letter from Bob to day. He had been on a three day pass and had a wonderful time. Said he had kissed you but hadn't heard from you. But Barbara, just called and told him of a letter she had received from you must not have known that Bob told me of his plans of leaving. He did right in telling me and I want you to do the same. Of course I'll be worried till you land yet that wouldn't be as bad as not knowing from you and not knowing why. If your letter fail to come I'd fear you had jungle or malaria fever or some thing else awful. Tell me every thing dear.

Remember I told you that I had a Negro wife and son living with me. To day I ask what his C.O. brother A.P.O. is and she said 708. He is in 26 or 29 Div. of Air Corps. Can't think of his name but will ask again.

W.A. bought a new Singer sewing machine last week. It's a home and made me want one mighty bad. The man came to see me to day, I paid him what I paid for my machine 18 or 19 years ago. To make a long story short. I traded. Made my old machine and \$5.00 down payment. Will pay balance monthly. See need another machine.

On April you will find your baby sister. I'm getting jealous what you done here. Bob spoke of the little blonde I have with me and she took a big cry when she read it. She like my self. Please for the day will have our boy.

V - MAIL

my self please for the day will have our boy.



April 26, 43

My Darling, (Brock)

And I mean my darling. How I would love to get hold of you tonight. I'm forcing myself to think it won't be long till you begin your journey back toward home and those that love you dearly.

Got a letter from Bob today. He has been on a three day pass and had a wonderful time. Said he had written you but hadn't heard from you, but Barbara just called and told him of a letter she had received. Son, you might not have known that Bob told me of his plans of leaving. He did right in telling me and I want you to do the same. Of course I'll be worried till you land yet that wouldn't be as bad as not hearing from you and not knowing why. If your letters fail to come I'd fear you had Jungle or Malaria Fever or something else awful. Tell me everything dear.

Remember I told you that I had a Major's wife and son eating with me. Today I asked what his Col. brother's APO is and she said 708. He's in the 26 or 29 division of the air corp. Can't think of his name but will ask again.

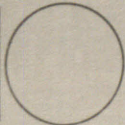
Ava bought a new singer sewing machine last week. It's a honey and made me want one mighty bad. The man came to see me today; offered me what I paid for my machine 18 or 19 years ago. To make a long story short, I traded. Gave my old machine and \$15.08 down payment. Will pay balance monthly till I need another machine.

I'm afraid you will find your baby sister very jealous when you come home. Bob spoke of the little blond I have with me and she took a big cry when she read it [unreadable] Hugs and sweet dreams, your mother



Print the complete address in plain block letters in the space below, and your return address in the space provided. Be typewritten, dark ink, or pen. Write plainly. Every small writing is not suitable.

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

D. J. Schlegel, Bush, Ill. 111  
1314 Bush, Chicago, Ill.  
H. D. 108, 1st St. East, Marquette  
San Francisco, California

Mrs. Margaret  
346 Webster Ave.  
Marquette, Mich.  
April 27, 1943  
(Don)

April 27, 1943  
11:30 P.M.

Dearest One:

I'm yarning my head off but still determined to write you before I go to bed. I'm awfully tired for some unknown reason. At night after I put kids to bed is my one & only chance to write. Then I can never think of any news. We're all well & keeping busy. Saw Mom this morning a while. She went to Summit for baby chicks. I rode up with her.

I'm sewing up a storm with my machine and enjoying it. Oh boy. Its real summer time here now. Was chilly for so long.

I'm still awindaw. Major's in bleater. I gave B. Jean a permanent yesterday and plan to give Mother one later in week. Dore Sue one last week.

I had Bob's letter written 19<sup>th</sup> this morn. He has written you & is sure. He really seems to be up in air. Does he not? Seen any more of Collins & Harold? I know you were glad to see them. Good night sweet heart I must go to bed. I love you dearly. SJS



April 27, 1943

Dearest Ones,

I'm yawning my head off but still determined to write you before I go to bed. I'm awfully tired for some unknown reason. At night after put the kids to bed is my one & only chance to write. Then I can never think of any news.

We're all well and keeping busy. Saw mom this morning a while. She went to Summit for baby chicks. I rode up with her.

I'm sewing up a storm with my machine. Am I enjoying it.

It's real summertime here now. Was chilly for so long.

I'm still a widow. Major's in Gloster.

I gave B. Jean a permanent yesterday. Plan to give mother one later in the week. Gave sue one last week.

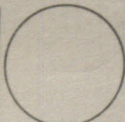
Had Bob's letter written 19<sup>th</sup> this morn. He has written you I'm sure. He really seems to be up in air. Does he not? Seen anymore of Collins and Harold? I know you were glad to see them. Good night sweetheart, must go to bed.

I love you darling, Sis



Print the complete address in plain block letters in the space below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pen. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

2/28/48  
12th Street  
A.P.O. 708  
San Francisco, California

Miss Major Edge  
366 Delacorte Ave  
M.C. Brook, Miss  
April 26, 1948

Dearest Brock:

The letter I scribbled last night didn't make sense. I'm trying again in early morn while I sip my coffee.

Waking up this morning to shop for a house coat to give Betty Marie for graduation. She's such a sweet kid. I hope to find a nice one for her. I have a baby gift to get for Melba + S.B.'s knife if the two youngsters will hurry up + make their arrival. Melba came by to see me two days ago. She's looking swell + feels fine. Expecting any day now. Guess Ray has new niece or nephew anytime he arrives. Melba said J.C. was with her + Bob. I thought he was to stay with you.

Trying to get an arbor build on side of my yard that is next to an old building. I'm sure having a time. Can't get material for labor. I'll be doing it myself.

You should see Robert Brock now. I cut orange half into + gave to him. He's hooked in it up to his eye. He really goes for it. He eats anything + sticks his mouth.

I must try to get up to see uncle Bud this morning also. Will be going home without my seeing him again.

James Little has been physically deferred twice a sink in his back. Guess he's definitely out now. After two sh's. Major expects another classification soon. I'm anxious to know verdict. You or Bud want to know. Hearing you soon. Love as always. Your sis

April 26, 48

V MAIL



April 28, 1943

Dearest Brock,

The letter I scribbled last night didn't make sense. I'm trying again in early morn while I sip my coffee.

I'm going up town this morning to shop for a housecoat to give Betty Marie for graduation. She's such a sweet kid. I hope to find a nice one for her. I have a baby gift to get for Melba & S.G.'s wife if the two youngsters will hurry up and make their arrival. Melba came by to see me two days ago. She is looking swell and feels fine. Expecting any day now. Guess Ray will have new niece or nephew by time he arrives. Melba said J.C. was with he and Bob. I thought he was to stay with you.

I'm trying to get an arbor built on side of my yard that is next to an old building. I'm sure having a time. Can't get material for arbor. Guess I'll be doing it myself.

You should see Robert Brock now. I cut orange half in two and gave it to him. He's [unreadable] in it up to his eyes. He really goes for it. He eats anything I stick in his mouth.

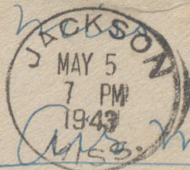
I must try to get up and see Uncle Bud this morning also. He'll be going home without my seeing him again.

James Bettle has been physically deferred twice. A sink in his back. Guess he's definitely out now after two tries. Major expects another reclassification soon. I'm anxious to know verdict. Yes or [unreadable] to know. Be seeing you soon.

Love as always, Your Sis



From 4073 Redwing  
Jackson



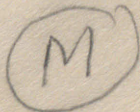
S/Sgt J. B. Thornhill (7002200)

~~72nd Bomb Sq~~ Returned to U.S.  
18th Replacement Wing  
Salt Lake City, Utah

~~APO 708~~

~~P.m.~~

~~San Francisco~~  
~~Calif.~~





My Dear- I am going  
to try this by air mail &  
it had better go to you &  
not back to me.

Received your letter written  
on the 19<sup>th</sup> and I hope not  
to write you this same  
address any more, hope  
your wings will be bring-  
ing you in this direction

I have been sick with  
a cold and you should  
have heard me grunt, one  
afternoon I was alone  
for a while and I turned  
on all the noise that  
go with grunting & it



helped a lot. try it sometimes  
when you feel bad.

Nancy is a handsome  
girl to day, she has the  
mumps on one side and  
her face looks a little  
crooked, last night she  
wake up & looked in  
the mirror & got frightened  
at her self.

We are having a flower  
show to day, wish you  
<sup>could</sup> see all the beautiful blooms

Those tires are waiting  
and a yearning for you  
and Bob. so hurry on  
you cant get here too quick  
all the folks are fine  
Sweetest love from  
Aunt Wora



5-4-43

My Dear,

I am going to try this by air mail & it had better go to you & not back to me.

Received you letter written on the 19<sup>th</sup> and I hope not to write you this same address any more. Hope you wings well be bringing you in this direction.

I have been sick with a cold and you should have heard md grunt, one afternoon I was alone for a while and I turned on all the noise that go with grunting and it helped a lot. Try it sometime when you feel bad.

Nancy is a handsome girl today. He has the mumps on one side and her face looks a little crooked. Last night she woke up & looked in the mirror & got frightened at herself.

We are having a flower show today. Wish you could see all the beautiful blooms

Those tires are waiting and yearning for you and Bob, so hurry on you can't get here too quick. All the folks are fine.

Sweetest love from

Aunt Dora



Magnolia, Miss.  
Sunday.

Hello Sweetie Pie.

I should have written you before now but when I do a little explaining I'm sure you will understand the delay. First as you know your ~~husband~~ brother is here which is almost excuse enough but I have more yet. Remember I told you that Polly wasn't acting right and that I felt sure something was brewing. I was right. She left me the day before Bob arrived. She went to Pascagoula (that's not spelled right) ~~that~~ to work. Will get \$21.00 and make a week so surely no one can blame her. I haven't been able to find any kind of help but will try some more next week. This would happen to me when my boy came home.

Your letter to Bob came last night and it thrilled me through and through. Keep pulling wires and moving red tape and get the best you can for both of you. The most important thing is staying together and getting your other 15 days full enough together. I don't think Bob is over eager to get Ray is same. Sqd. With you - in fact he's said he'd rather not. Don't think he likes Ray's friends and way too much. Ray's girl Bertwin sister and their father met him at the train. I think every body was a wee bit disappointed for it wasn't very romantic. He walked up and said "Hi" and she said "Hi" - that's all. Now wasn't that flat?

So you got a big kick out of my letter because I was expecting you in July. Please tell me who was responsible for those thoughts - none other than you my dear. I'm still expecting you in



July or Aug. - both of you and that when we are  
going to have fun - Cook or no cook or boarding  
houses for that matter.

Bob seems to be having a real nice time even  
tho his upset over me having no help. You are  
right his dated Doris, and like you think she's  
a sweet date. He dated the Cook girl in McComb  
one night and last night he dated the brunette that  
I introduced you to in the bank. He's with her this  
afternoon - so guess she's alright too. Think he  
plans to meet Doris. One to night tho. She sure  
has been swell about helping me since Pally left.  
We went to Jackson. Friday afternoon and came  
back yesterday. Wa. Mayor. Bob and Edwina went  
on the Buff to dance and had a swell time. Bob  
said Edwina was a good date, in fact he denied  
that they were cousins. She must have been al-  
right for they took Wa and Mayor home at twelve and  
they came in at three. By the way. Edwina said the  
boys that went out with you all that night was mad  
jealous of you is why they acted so dumb. Said  
they got mad because you took them home, for thought  
we wanted to get rid of them. That's gratitude isn't  
it?

We are having Mamma's birthday dinner next  
Sun, so Bob will get to see every body. Wish you  
could be here. We have his Chicken fry and dance  
about Friday night I guess.

Petty Jean and Mary Ellen are about to get together  
again. Their Van Dorn friends came last night and  
had this afternoon. They have a good car, which  
makes it nice.  
Must stop and mail this. Hope we get another letter  
soon. I love you. Mother (over)



The Coopers got a wire on the 5<sup>th</sup> that Collins  
is missing. They haven't heard any thing more  
or are afraid he's dead. Your visit meant so  
much to Mr Cooper. Love mother



Magnolia, Miss  
June 1943\*

Hello Sweetie Pie (Brock)

I should have written you before now But when I so a little explaining I'm sure you will understand the delay. First as you know your twin brother is here which is almost excuse enough but I have more yet. Remember I told you that Polly wasn't acting right and that I felt something was brewing. I was right. She left me the day before Bob arrived. She went to Pascagoula to work. Will get \$21.00 and meals a week so surely now one can blame her. I haven't been able to find any kind of help but will try some more next week. This would happen to me when my boys come home.

Your letter to Bob came last night and it thrilled me through and through. Keep pulling wires and [unreadable] red tape and get the best you can for both of you. He most important thing is staying together and getting your other 15 days furlough together. I don't think Bob is over eager to get Ray in same Sqd. with you. In fact, he's said he'd rather not. Don't think he likes Ray's friends and ways too much. Ray's girls, her twin sister and their father met hem at the train. I think everybody was a wee bit disappointed for it wasn't very Romantic. He walked up and said "Hi" and she said "Hi" and that's all. Now wasn't that feat?

So you got a big kick out of my letter because I was expecting you in July. Please tell me who was responsible for those thoughts- none other than you, my dear. I'm still expecti9ng you in July or Aug. - both of you and that's when we are going to have fun. Cook or no cook or boarding house for that matter.

Bob seems to be having a real nice time even tho he's upset over me having no help. You are right he's dated Doris and like you think she's a sweet date. He dated the Cook girl in McComb one night and last night he dated the brunette that I introduced you to in the bank. He's with her this afternoon so guess she's alright too. Think he plans to meet Doris' bus tonight tho. She sure has been swell about helping me since Polly left. We went to Jackson Friday afternoon and came back yesterday. Ava, Major, Bob and Edwina went on the [unreadable] to dance and had a swell time. Bob said Edwina was a good date in fact he denied that they were cousins. She must have been alright for they took Ava and Major home at twelve and they came in at three. By the way, Edwina said the boys that went out with you all that night was mad jealous of you is why they acted so dumb. Said the got mad because you took them home for they thought you wanted to get rid of them. That's gratitude isn't it.

We are having mama's birthday dinner next Sun. so Bob will get to see everybody. Wish you could be here. Will have his Chicken fry and dance about Friday night I guess.

Betty Jean and Mary Ellen are about to get together again. Their Van Dorn friends came last night and back this afternoon. They have a good car which makes it nice.



Must stop and mail this. Hope we get another letter soon.

I love you, mother.

The Coopers got a wire on the 5<sup>th</sup> that Collins is missing. They haven't heard anything more so am afraid he's dead. Your visit meant so much t Mrs.. Cooper.

Love, Mother

\*This letter mentions Susan Holmes' birthday which is in June



2667 Tantalus Dr.  
Honolulu 21, T. H.  
June 1, 1943

Dear Brock,

My, but it seems ages since I've heard from you and surely it has been. I suppose they keep you very busy since you are being transferred and going ~~going~~ home on furlough. You are probably home now and that is why I am taking a chance of catching you there. I was going to wait for you to write to me because naturally I don't know for sure just where you are, but no letter has come and I know that your Mother will forward it for me.

We are all pretty well here. Auntie had a couple of heart spells and wasn't so well for a while, but is better now. Mother is feeling better and more her old self again although she still has to be careful. She has a little trouble in walking yet. Daddy keeps pretty well and is at present working on his moose whistle. It is too cute to hear him--he goes to the piano to tune it out and see how he is coming along. It is good that he has something to amuse himself.

Dougie had his fifth birthday Saturday and this year he had a party. Last year it was Midway time if you will remember and we were all very much on the alert, so no party. Daddy went out with Garton the night before Dougie's birthday and he said that Muffie had a wonderful time and it might just as well have been her party. She is certainly adorable and you would love her to pieces if you could see her now. She talks a great deal, her hair is very blonde and long, and her eyes are the biggest blue ones you ever did see.

Garton has a birthday tomorrow and the following day is David's fourteenth birthday. I can't get over how he is growing up. Garton is now a Lieut. Commander. He is in on duty every third night now.

Did I tell you about our rabbits and ducks? I think I did in my last letter to you, but that letter has gone to where you were before and I don't know just when you will get it. Anyway, Garton is raising rabbits and ducks. We have rabbit hutches behind the garage. This morning I found a little dove with a broken wing and he couldn't fly. I put him in with the ducklings because then the mongoose and rats won't get at him.

I am beginning to help down at Church in the Service men's dining-room again for they do need help and it is one way in which I can offer my services on Fridays. The open houses at the Bishop's house are every Wednesday and the first Saturday of each month. I am still teaching dancing and doing various things of that sort, so I really don't get to many of the "Flying Squadron" dances. I do enough during the week to make up for it though even though I love dancing and should love to attend them all. Central Union Church gives dances for Defense Workers once a month and I go with several of my girl friends to those. They are really fun for we wear long evening dresses, they wear their tuxedos, and we have a dinner-dance until way after blackout. The orchestra is up on the stage and they throw spot lights around the room while the candles glow merrily on the tables. It almost seems like the day before the war.

Tell Bob that I received another letter from Betty a month or two back and



she still has not mentioned being engaged to that Captain. I finally wrote to her and asked her what the score was because Col. Farnum told me that she had written to him that she was engaged. By the way, your Col. is back where he used to be--you know where Bob was and you were before the war.

I happened to mention to Mother that I was writing a letter to you, and she said that she is writing one too! Neither of us knew that the other was writing so something must have inspired us to write today at the same time.

I wish that you would let me know when you receive my letter which has gone to your old address. You see, I explained some things in that letter about my not taking matters for granted and some other things that you will understand when you get it.

How is everybody at home? Your Mother, Bettie Jean, and Ava and family? What fun it must be for you to see your new little nephew and Sue Carol too. I am wondering where you will be sent after your furlough. Do you think that you can manage somehow, as you did before, about where you will be? It is always a great comfort to know if it is a fairly safe place. I saw in the paper where an old class-mate of mine was killed in action in Tunisia, and now we have learned that Brewster Morgon (Dr. Morgon's son) is missing. He was an ace pilot in England and had just completed his 50th bombing mission. I knew him when I was in school and he used to come to some of my parties. He belonged to the same Church and his Mother used to be my Sunday School teacher. I hate to hear of those things and he was such a wonderful fellow.

There doesn't seem to be much else to talk about. Please do write and give us the latest news and tell us how the old home town looks to you. Wherever you may go, whatever you do, you know that we are thinking of you and wish the very best of luck in every way. The same goes for Bob and tell him to write for we enjoy his letters very much and want to know how he is making out.

Love,

Barbara

P.S. Be sure to write Honolulu 21 because we are divided up into districts now to expedite delivery.  
B.W.



2667 Tantalus Drive, Honolulu  
June 1, 1943

My Dear Brock:

You can imagine how very disappointed I was to learn that you had been right off the harbor, and we had not been able to see you or hear your voice over the telephone. I wonder if you were able to see our house up on the hillside. I was torn between rejoicing and thankfulness that you were out of that awful dangerous place and sorrow that you had to pass us right by.

Barbara had written at least two letters to you down there and I had written one that must have passed you on the way, and will be a very long time reaching you - if ever.

We both thought you would drop us a line as soon as you reached the mainland and eagerly looked for your familiar hand writing amongst our coast mail, but so far we have had no word from you or Bob.

Some way you seem so very much further away since you reached the mainland.



I wonder if you two boys have seen little Robert Brock yet. Well let you make a bee line for him, and for Sue Carol, and Betty Jean will be a big drawing card also.

It is funny, but just now Barbara came into the room to get some writing paper from the desk and said, "I thought I would write a letter to Brock," and was surprised when I said that was to whom this letter is going. I have not written to any one for weeks, and we both get the inspiration to write to you the same hour.

It is hard for me to settle down to write. My poor daughter in Evansston is neglected at times. I tire very easily since my accident and the doctor has not entirely conquered my knee trouble - I think one more injection will do it, but in the meanwhile I have to keep it stretched out by lying down, and it is hard to write in bed. I do get about quite a bit, but I try to lighten Barbara's burden as much as possible, and then I must lie down instead of sitting up as I am now doing.



and writing letters is hard lying down.

Life goes on here very much as it did when you were here only no one has to carry a gas mask any more - not even the service boys. That is one big relief.

I still try to bring a little recreation and home life to as many of the deserving boys as I can, especially those just returned from the fighting front, but now that you boys have gone I seldom have them spend the night. They spend the day and have dinner with us. Tell Bob the man named Al who was here (and who had just returned from below) the night he was here has returned to the mainland. Harry (the other one) is the son of an Episcopalian minister and is a very fine boy. He is still here but expecting orders any day. This is a terrible life when they come, we become good friends and they go. Sometimes they write and are very good about it, but sometimes they are sent to places where letters are a long time getting out. I received quite a number of Mother's Day cards which I value very much.



Your thoughtful sister was good enough to send me one and I appreciated it very much.

Garton is now a Lieutenant Commander. I told him it is not everyone who has a Lieutenant Commander to cut his lawn for him. He keeps the grass down nicely.

So please drop us a line. I can just picture your dear mother's happiness at having her twins boys home again. I wish you could take a family group picture and send us.

Please give my love to your mother and sister.

With Aloha me

Edith Wall.

P.S. Will you please add 21 to the address Honolulu as on envelope. Honolulu has become so thickly populated that they have had to divide us into sections to facilitate delivery of mail.



2667 Tantalus Dr  
Hololulu  
June 1, 1943

My Dear Brock,

You can imagine how very disappointed I was to learn that you had been right off the harbor, and we had not been able to see you or hear your voice over the telephone. I wonder if you were able to see our house up on the hillside. I was torn between rejoicing and thankfulness that you were out of that awful dangerous place and sorrow that you had to pass us right by.

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It is funny, but just now Barbara came into the room to get some writing paper from the desk, and said "I thought I would write a letter to Brock", and was surprised when I said that was to whom this letter is going. I have not written to anyone for weeks and we both get the inspiration to write to you the same hour.

It is hard for one to settle down to write. My poor daughter in Evanston is neglected at times. I tire very easily since my accident and the doctor has not entirely conquered my knee trouble. I think one more injection will do it, but in the meanwhile I have to keep it stretched out by lying down and it is hard to write in bed. I do get about quite a bit, but I try to lighten Barbara's burden so much as possible, and then I must lie down instead of sitting up as I am now doing and writing letters is hard lying down.

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to places where letters are a long time getting out. I received quite a number of Mother's Day cards which I value very much. Your thoughtful sister was good enough to send me one and I appreciated it very much.

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Do please drop us a line. I can just picture you dear Mother's happiness at having her twin boys home again. I wish you could take a family group picture and send us.

Please give my love to your Mother and sister,

With Aloha Nui,

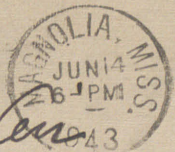
Edith Wall

PS- Will you please add 21 to the address Honolulu as to the envelope. Honolulu has become so thickly populated that they have had to divide us into sections to facilitate delivery of mail.



Sioux Thornhill  
Box 205 Magnolia Miss

Via Air



S/Sgt Talmage Brook Thornhill  
Prov. M. Sqdn.  
Salt Lake City A. A. B.  
Salt Lake City  
Utah.



Magnolia Miss.  
Wed. night

Shello darlings;

"Aren't quite on the Western front" so I'll try writing you. Come to think of it it's almost too quiet to be comfortable. Ava and babies are gone. Betty Jean and Bert have gone to show and my "jest" has gone to his room and not one sound can I hear. (He had an argument with my self over how to spell hear).

Guess I had better explain my jest. He's Mr. Bathus from state office. He's been with us for three weeks from Tues. to Sat. and I'll certainly be glad when he checks out for a while. He's having the Willows cut out of lade and working a Carpenter on repairs. Cooking for him is a bother and then he's popping in and out at all hours of the day. Starts taking his drinks at five when he takes off the job and by supper he's in a very talkative mood. I left Betty Jean and Bert to fix supper for him yesterday and I went to the show. When I got back they had danced and performed for him untill they were exhausted. They said he had been feeding the



machine for two hours and had  
them dancing all the time.

Wish you could have met Bert. She  
moved in one of the Cabine Conple  
days after you left. She staying with  
her sister who's a L<sup>th</sup> Wife. She being  
sent across so they are leaving next  
Tuesday for home. Be sure will miss  
her and she says she's coming back  
next summer to work for me. They  
all think Miss. is a wonderful state.

Uncle and I drove out to the farm  
after B. J. got home from school  
yesterday. The house is covered and  
looks right well. They the Negroes are  
certainly proud of the lake being  
atoped. Mr. Pushing wouldn't offer  
me but \$65.00 for the house but  
Coli. said that he thought he could  
sell it to Alfons for \$80.00. I came  
by to see Alfons but he wasn't at  
home so I left word for him to call  
me to day. Hope he takes it for it  
looks like the damn truck fender  
is going to cost me 45.00 or 50.00  
I wrote Ada to ask Slim to see if  
he could buy me a new fender at  
wholesale which will be much cheaper.  
Ever thing happens to me. I call my  
sunt off. Mr. White, said that his  
daughter was driving his car without



his consent and the lawyer says  
there's a clause in the law that would  
exempt him from paying the damage  
and I'd have to catch her in misa  
and sue her. She's working for the  
government in Alaska so I'll just  
forget the whole thing. fix the fender  
I bent and drive mine as it is  
until I can fix it. There's no  
justice in law and I hope I'll  
never have to look to it for help  
any more.

The Advance Co. are having a big  
barbecue and dance here to night.  
Looks now like it might be cold and  
raining which will be bad for the  
barbecue in the picnic shed. They  
ought wish they had ordered a banquet  
in my nice warm dining room ha!

Miss Shambeanger wanted B.J. and  
Betty Dial (the little girl you liked Brock) to  
take a part in the class play but they  
declined and I'm mighty glad. B.J.  
would have missed ball practice (and  
that's the real reason why she didn't  
want it). and they would have had  
to go in every night for two or  
three weeks to practice. B.J. it's three  
miles to Betty's ~~who~~ so Ava or I or one  
or Mrs Dial would have had to go  
in with them. I'm glad to know she



Was asked to take a part and I'm also  
glad that she didn't take it. Bob. B. J. is  
having trouble with her history so  
guess she can get sympathy from you.  
It's the only thing she ever studies at  
home. Yet makes the same grade. I'm  
afraid she's not thinking enough about  
her studies which won't be much help  
to her if or when she goes to College.

Am enclosing Mrs. Wall's letter. If you  
all haven't written ~~her~~ and Barbara  
you should do so soon. Notice in  
my letter she said she was going to  
offer and release you from the burden  
of writing them.  
Be sure to, Sweet Dreams

Love you ever so much  
Mother.



Magnolia, Miss  
June 13, 1943

Hello Darlings,

All's quite on the western front so I'll try writing you. Come to think of it, it's almost too quiet to be comfortable. Ava and babies are gone. Betty Jean and Bert have gone to a show and my "pest" has gone to his room and not one sound can I hear (ha had an argument with myself over how to spell hear)

Guess I had better explain my pest. He's Mr. Bathia from state office. He's been with us for three weeks from Tues. to Sat. and I'll certainly be glad when he checks out for a while. He's having the willows cut out of the lake and working a carpenter on repairs. Cooking for him is a bother and then his popping in and out at all hours of the day. Starts taking his drinks at five when he takes off the job and by supper he's in a very talkative mood. I left Betty Jean and Bert to fix supper for him yesterday and I went to the show. When I got back they had danced and performed for him until they were exhausted. The said he had been feeding the machine for two hours and had them dancing all the time.

Wish you could have met Bert. She moved in one of the cabins couple of days after you left. She is staying with her sister who's a Lt.'s wife. He's being sent across so they are leaving next Tuesday for home. We sure will miss her and she [unreadable] she's coming back next summer to work for me. They all think Miss. is a wonderful state.

Vickie and I drove out to the farm after B.J. got home from school yesterday. The house is covered and looks right well. The negroes are certainly proud of the leaks being stopped. Mrs. Rushing wouldn't offer me but \$65.00 for the house but Eli said that he thought he could sell it to Alfons for \$80.00. I came by to see Alfon but he wasn't at home so I left word for him to call me today. Hope he takes it for it looks like the darn truck fender is going to cost me \$45 or \$50.

I wrote Ava to ask Slim to see if he could buy me a new fender at wholesale which will be much cheaper. Everything happens to me. I call my suit off. Mr. White said that his daughter was driving his car without his consent and the layer says there's a clause in the law that would exempt him from paying the damage and I'd have to catch her in Miss. and sue her. She's working for the government in Alaska so I'll just forget the whole thing, fix the fender I bent and drive mine as it is until I can fix it. There's no justice in the law and I hope I never have to look to it for help any more.

The ordinance company are having a big barbeque and dance here tonight. Looks now like it might be cold and raining which will be bad for the barbeque in the picnic shed. The might wish they had ordered a banquet in my nice warm dining room Ha!



Mrs. Shambeanger wanted B.J. and Betty Dial (the little girl you liked Brock) to hake a part in the class play but they declined and I'm mighty glad. B.J. would have missed ball practice (and that's the real reason why she didn't want it) and they would have had to go in every night for two or three weeks to practice. It's three miles to Betty's so Ava or I one or Mrs. Dial would have had to gone in with them. I'm glad to know she was asked to take a part and I'm also glad that she didn't take it. Bob, B.J. is having trouble with her history so guess she can get sympathy from you. It's the only thing she ever studies at home yet make the worst grades. I'm afraid she's not thinking enough about her studies which won't be much help to her if or when she goes to college.

Am enclosing Mrs. Wall's' letters. If you all haven't written she and Barbara you should do so soon. Notice in my letter she said she was going to offer and release you from the burden of writing them.

Be sweet, sweet dreams,

I love you an awful lot, Mother



Magnolia Miss  
Wed. night

Hello Sweetie Pie.

No doubt you think I've let you down in the letter question. The two letters I wrote you are the only two I've written since you came home. ~~which~~ But since both of my boys are away again letters must be written am I right? Soon I'll try to write the Cady's and Wally's.

Bob, left last night so will soon be with you. I'm very anxious to know when you will be located and am praying it won't be too far. Bob's stay at home - like yours wasn't all I wanted it to be yet it was wonderful to me. That was one time I had planned to take a vacation but I did every thing but. Think Bob had a right nice time between his blond and brunette. By the way Doris. said tell you, please don't send her next letter by "Pony Express" you wrote me that you was writing her and I told her and the letter hasn't arrived.

Guess Bob will see you before you get this but he might not think to tell you about ~~the~~ Collins Cooper being <sup>reported</sup> missing. on the 5<sup>th</sup> of this past month. His mother was



reading a letter she received that was written  
five days before he was reported missing and  
she had a heart attack and died couple days  
later. It was an awful thing to happen.

Petty Marie married the Walker boy Sat. night  
Don't think I'll lose any more sleep over her  
He's leaving for service the 29<sup>th</sup>

Mamma stayed with me till to night.  
I picked and she and I shelled five gallons  
of shelled butter beans yesterday. I put them  
in my locker. Got a letter from the Negro  
to day telling me the beans and butter beans  
on the place are ready to can. Don't know  
how I'm going to manage to go out to can  
but must try to find some way.

Girls seem plentiful and easy to meet  
there. Have you decided which one you want  
a second date with? Bob. Will take care of some  
of them for you. but Ray. Can't go out with  
one right now since he's engaged properly.

No news dear. so I'll get some short  
sleeves for tomorrow. Will be another one  
of those days. You will write me just as  
soon as you find out any thing want  
you.

Good night and sweet dreams my dear  
Love Mother



Magnolia, Miss  
Early June 1943\*

Hello Sweetie Pie,

No doubt you think I've let you down in the letter question. The two letters I wrote you are the only two I've written since you came home. But since both of my boys are away again letters must be written. Am I right! Soon I'll try to write the Cady's and Wall's!

Bob left last night so will soon be with you. Am very anxious to know where you will be located and am praying it won't be too far. Bob's stay at home, like yours wasn't all I wanted it to be yet it was wonderful to me. That was one time I had planned to take a vacation but I did everything but. Think Bob had a right nice time between his blond and brunette. By the way, Doris said tell you please don't send her next letter by "Pony Express". You wrote me that you were writing her and I told her and the letter hasn't arrived.

Guess Bob will see you before you can get this but he might not think to tell you about Collins Cooper being reported missing on the 5<sup>th</sup> of this month. His mother was reading a letter she received that was written five days before he was reported missing and she had a heart attack and died couple of day later. It was an awful thing to happen.

Betty Marie married the Walker boy Sat. Night. Don't think I'll lose any more sleep over her. He's leaving for service the 29<sup>th</sup>.

Mamma stayed with me till tonight. I picked and she and I shelled five gallons of shelled butter beans yesterday. I put them in my locker. Got a letter from the negro today telling me the beans and butterbeans in the place are ready to can. Don't know how I'm going to manage to go out to can but must try to find some way.

Girls seem plentiful; and easy to meet there. Have you decided which one you want a second date with? Bob will take care of some of them for you, but Ray can't go out with one now since he's mortgaged property. No news dear so I'll get some shut eye for tomorrow. Will be another one of those days. You will write me just as soon as you find out anything, won't you.

Good night and sweet dreams my dear,

Love, Mother

\*Brock mentioned Ray not being "mortgaged property" in his letter dated 6-30-43, probably in response to Bessie's comment in this letter



Monday night

Dearest ones,

Well, Mary E. and I went to N. O. Friday and I got my ring and locket. Gee! they're so pretty and I'm so proud of them. You know I never had any kind of jewelry before. And I'm crazy about my wings. All the ~~the~~ girls envy me now that I wear a pair of silver wings.

Oh! Boy! did we have fun in the city. We went down Friday ~~with~~ morn and was supposed to come back that night but, being surrounded by 8 or ten good-looking soldiers



<sup>2</sup>  
at the station, we missed our  
train. We had to get a hotel  
room. The only one with a  
vacant room was the La Salle.  
A nice little hotel on Canal.  
We made it to bed about two  
thirty and slept till twelve next  
day. We ate dinner, took in a  
show, fooled around, crossed  
the river & back on the ferry  
and etc. At the train station  
Sat. morn we met two cute  
sailors who wanted to take  
us some place before leaving  
time but we wouldn't take  
the chance. We just stuck



around and <sup>3</sup>met two other nice  
ones who were content to sit  
and wait for the train which  
incidentally came about 10 min.  
after they introduced themselves  
(darnit!)

Boys! you have got to do  
some thing with our mother!  
She's simply working her  
head off trying to cook for all  
these people. She's in bed  
groaning right now as a  
result of today's work. I had  
to put her to bed when I  
came home from work and  
cook supper. I left her waiting  
over dinner and found her



<sup>4</sup>  
canning figs this afternoon.  
I had to go get the little negro  
girl because "it was drizzling  
rain!" she said as if she  
never had walked in the rain  
and what burned me up was I  
walked home from work in  
the rain. You got to make  
mother quit or pretty soon you  
won't have a mother to read  
those letters about all the  
pretty girls you take out every  
night and no one to send you  
gas stamps. No joking - some  
thing must be done and it seems  
you are the only ones left to  
do it. Every time Ana or I  
say something she gets perfectly



5  
furious and doesn't speak at  
us for days. There must be  
something you ~~can~~ say or do.  
You seem to have such a way  
with women - why not  
turn on the technique with  
your mom? She'd listen  
to you when she'd ignore  
every one else. (Don't  
let your head swell) What  
I would love to see her do  
is pay. Allie, Jop, and Maxine  
a visit. They'd love to have  
her and you know she  
love to go. Come on! help  
me out. I'm in a rut and  
worse than ever I may



be an orphan. <sup>E</sup> I hope  
mother doesn't get her  
hands ~~folded~~ on this before  
I mail it - she'd murder  
me !!!

Well, tomorrow is a new  
day with plenty to do.

So -

Good night sweetest,

Betty Jean

P.S. Thanks for the lovely  
ring. Every one thinks it's  
pretty.



July 1943\*

Dearest ones,

Well, Mary E and I went to N.O. Friday and I got my ring and locket. Gee? They're so pretty and I'm so proud of them. You know I never had any kind of jewelry before and I'm crazy about my wings. All the girls envy me now that I wear a pair of silver wings.

Oh! Boy! did we have fun in the city. We went down on Friday morn and was supposed to come back that night but being surrounded by 8 or 10 good looking soldiers at the station we missed our train. We had to get a hotel room. The only one with a vacant room was the La Salle. A nice little hotel on the Canal. We made it to bed about two thirty and slept till twelve next day. We ate dinner, took in a show, fooled around, crossed the river and back on the ferry, and ect. At the train station Sat night we met two cute sailors who wanted to take us some place before train time but we wouldn't take the chance. We just stuck around and met two other nice ones who were content to sit and wait for the train which incidentally came about 10 minutes after they introduced themselves (darn it!)

Boys! You have got to do something with our mother! She's simply working her head off trying to cook for all these people. She's in bed groaning right now as a result of today's work. I had to put her to bed when I came home from work and cook supper. I left her sweating over dinner and found her canning figs this afternoon. I had to go get the little negro girl because it was drizzling rain she said as if she never had walked in the rain and what burned me up was I walked home from work in the rain. You got to make mother quit or pretty soon you won't have a mother to read those letters about all the pretty girls you take out every night and now one to send you gas stamps. No joking-something must be done and it seems you are the only ones left to do it. Every time Ava or I say something she gets perfectly furious and doesn't speak at us for days. There must be something you can say or do. You seem to have such a way with women-why not turn on the technique with your mom! She'd listen to you when she'd ignore everyone else (don't let your head swell). What I would love to see her do is pay Allie, Jep, and Maxine a visit. They'd love to have her and you know she would love to go. Come on! Help me out. I am in a rut and worse than ever. I may be an orphan. I hope mother doesn't get her hands on this before I mail it-she'd murder me!!!

Well, tomorrow is a new day with plenty to do.

So- Good night sweethearts, Betty Jean

P.S. Thanks for the lovely ring. Everyone thinks it's pretty.

\* The letter dated 8-24-43 insists that Bessie stops work and goes on a nice vacation. Since this letter informs them of the problem, it is reasonable to assume it was written shortly before.



AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

M/Sgt. H.M. Stennan  
72nd Bomb Sqdn (H)  
A.P.O. 708 c/o Postmaster  
San Francisco Calif.

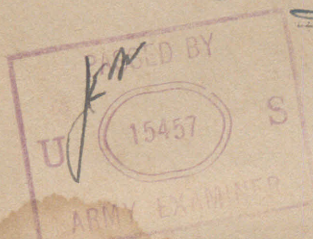


539

S/Sgt. T. B. Thornhill  
382TH BOMB GP.

56.18  
Per

Prov. Sqdn. "M"  
POCATELLO, Army Air-Base  
IDAHO Salt Lake City, Utah





I am sleeping in your  
old, sleeping place, & it is  
certainly comfortable. (thanks)

M/Sgt. H.M. Stenn  
72nd Bomb Sqdn.  
A.P.O. 708 4th Post Office  
San Francisco Calif.

June 28, 1943

Dear Brock

Air  
Mail

I certainly was glad to hear from you  
& I'm glad you think of us down here,  
cause boy we sure do miss all of the  
fellows. It was really rough at  
first (after you left), but at present  
everything is running pretty smooth.  
There is a hell-of-a-lot things I would  
like to tell you, but sorry I can't you'll  
just have to guess.

I'll bet the states are wonderful.  
So far I think I'll have to spend at  
least two years in foreign service  
before I get back, so you can imagine  
how long I'm down here for. & brother  
believe me, I don't think I'm going  
to like it very much, but I can't  
help it so I guess it's ok.

So far only (about) eight of us  
maybe nine, have made master Sergeant  
I was really surprised to make it.

Say, Brock I found your bag,  
what do you want me to keep. So far I  
have every thing that was in it except  
those air-mail stamps you left & of course



Air  
Mail

2

I had to divide them, as we usually  
do, remember how we divided Turnbells  
things, well I saw, just before I  
sorta - took a little vacation, & he wasn't  
surprised about his equipment.

I had a letter from "Arkie". He says  
he's engaged, & is going to get married  
soon. He is in Pueblo, Colorado.

I hope this letter reaches you  
soon. Helen Jo still loves me.  
but it looks like she has got a  
hell-of-a long wait ahead of her.

Well Brock, I'm a busy man  
now - a - day, so must close for  
now. Please answer soon.

Tell your brother hello. & hope  
you get close to home.

I'll see "Babs" if possible, for  
you, & give her your love, hugs

Please take care of all the women for  
me, until I get back.

Always a friend  
"Duke"

P.S.  
ok you, I ~~know~~ have a  
J.C.P.



M. Sgt H.M. Stennaner  
72<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Sq.  
San Francisco, California  
June 28, 1943

I am sleeping in your old sleeping place  
& it is certainly comfortable...thanks

Dear Brock,

I certainly was glad to hear from you & am glad you think of us down here; cause boy we sure do miss all of the fellows. It was really rough at first (after you left), but at present everything is running pretty smooth.

There is a hell-of-a-lot of things I would like to tell you, but sorry I can't. You'll just have to guess.

I'll bet the states are wonderful. So far I think I'll have to spend at least two years in foreign service before I get back, so You can imagine how long I'm down here for; and brother believe me I don't think I'm going to like it very much; but I can't help it so I guess it's OK.

So far only about eight of us, maybe nine, have made Master Sergeant. I was really surprised to make it.

Say, Brock I found your bag. What do you want me to keep. So far I have everything that was in except those air mail stamps you left, & of course I had to divide them as we usually do. Remember how we divided Turnbull's things. Well, I saw him, just before I sorta took a little vacation & he wasn't surprised about his equipment.

I had a letter from Arkie. He says he's engaged & is going to get married soon. He is in Pueblo, Colorado.

I hope this letter reaches you soon. Helen Jo still loves me but it looks like she has got a hell of a long wait ahead of her.

Well Brock, I'm a busy man now a days, so must close for now. Please answer soon.

Tell your brother hello & hope you get close to home.

I'll see Babs, if possible, for you and give her your love. Ha Ha

Please take care of all of the women for me until I get back.

Always a friend,

Ike

PS Oh yes, I now have a Jeep.



FROM

515 at J. B. Thornhill  
Rev. S. M. A. A. B.  
Salt Lake City, Utah



Mrs. Bessie Thornhill  
P.O. Box 205  
Magnolia, Mississippi



6-30-43

Dearest Mather,

So it wasn't your idea at all  
not to take over the Sledge, maybe  
you will be lucky enough to get Sanders  
until you do go to the Sledge. I believe  
Doris and Betty Jean would like it  
there.

You and others may think Ray is  
mortgaged property but I have a  
feeling that Diamond, he gave Grace  
want keep him some nights. He  
has been out with us three times  
already. War engagements doesn't mean  
a thing. I hope she doesn't expect Ray  
to stay home and dream of her. Ray  
like Bob and I is out for all the fun  
he can have. Remember - what I write  
about Ray is between you and I - the  
public is not to know. What we doesn't  
know will not hurt them or her.



We will be here several more days so you will have to wait to hear of our new location. Bob & Ray signed the payroll but want get paid for two or three days. After they are paid we will be subject to shipment. After we are put on alert we will probably leave 3 or ten days afterwards.

We don't mind staying here for we are having a good time. The only trouble is if we stay here much longer we won't be home on our birthday. If we don't make it for ours we will for yours. This is a good place to be when there is no work to be done. There over night passes are just what we like. We will get some passes at new station but we will have to work during the day. (We sleep here)

We hope to see you soon

Love  
Bob & Brock



6-30-43

Dearest Mother,

So it wasn't your idea at all not to take over the lodge. Maybe you will be lucky enough to get boarders until you do go to the lodge. I believe Doris and Bettye Jean would like it there.

You and others my thing Ray is mortgaged property but I have a feeling that diamond he gave Grace won't keep him home nights. He has been out with us three times already. War engagements doesn't mean a thing. I hope she doesn't expect Ray to stay home and dream of her. Ray like Bob and I is out for all the fun he can have. Remember-what I write about Ray is between you and I-the public is not to know. What one does not know will not hurt him or her.

We will be here several more days so you will have to wait to hear of our new location. Bob and Ray signed the payroll but won't get paid for two or three days. After they are paid we will be subject to shipment. After we are put on alert we will probably leave 3 or ten days afterwards.

We don't mind staying here for we are having a good time. The only trouble is if we stay here much longer we won't be home on our birthday. If we don't make it for ours we will for yours. This is a good place to be when there is no work to be done. These overnight passes are just what we like. We will get some passes at new station but we have to work during the day. (We sleep here)

We hope to see you soon

Love

Bob and Brock



Magnolia Miss  
Aug. 8- 43

Dearest Boys.

Well I got the letter last night  
so am in a better mood. But I'm fussier  
than any of your girls when you fail to  
write. The letter was a late one from Bob  
with an old one of Brocks enclosed. You  
sound like you are having a wonderful  
time and I'm so happy that you can.  
The money orders came and I'll go down  
tomorrow and take care of the first two for  
\$75 and \$20. Sorry I had to make it so  
heavy but getting it at separate times made  
it necessary.

No son I haven't got the check from the  
government. Shouldn't it be for more than  
\$22.50? It's from time you made stuff tie  
now. Mary E. husband told me some thing I  
want you to investigate. He said that he  
had made his mother an allotment to  
make his income and Victory tax lighter.  
He said if you make me an allotment  
~~for~~ as your dependent you will not have  
to pay on that. If this is true you should  
make it for the amount you want to send  
home and save the tax. I don't know  
if this is true but it's worth investigating.  
I went to see Hettie this afternoon.  
She wants to come but of course can't  
until they get their cotton picked. Mark



said he would let Hettie come by the 15<sup>th</sup> of Sept. Thats a long time off but expect I'll still be waiting her. Vickie has our trip to Lynchburg all cut and dried for the first of Sept and tried to make Hettie say she would take over before then. She's a mess. Said she got a letter from Joe (her son) yesterday and he said he saw Alice on his last trip. Said when he told her that she and I were coming for a visit she like to have torn his knit off of him. I expect she did. Can't you see her?

We went by the place and I got so disgusted don't know when I'll go back. You know the peas I planted for Canning. Well they had picked and sold all of them. Said they thought thats what I wanted them to do. My part was \$12. but would have been much more if I could have saved them. Then I went to get my Irish potato seed to plant and they had eaten them up. Have a big pecan crop and I'm going get them if I have to gather them green.

Betty Jean, is taking her Vacation this week. She was to go to Franklinton this afternoon to visit a friend till Friday. but decided to wait till tomorrow. Virginia Payne wanted her to go to Van Dorn with them this afternoon and she found that Mr and Mrs Babington are going down in the morning so decided to go with them.



She will work Sat. and will go to Jackson  
for a short visit next week. School starts  
the first day of Sept. so she doesn't have  
long to work or vacate. She had her biggest  
day yesterday - sold \$128.00 worth of mdse.  
Her boss thought it was wonderful.

I forgot to tell you in my last letter  
that Betty Jean got a letter from your  
daddy last week. Said - Oh I'll just  
send you the letter and let you  
see what he said. She and Ava has  
written him but I'm afraid he wasn't  
so proud of Betty's letter. By the way Ava  
is fussing up a storm about you  
not writing her. Have you got the birth-  
day gifts she sent you. She asks to day  
if you had mentioned them to me, that  
she hadn't heard word one from you since  
she sent them. Hope you got them for  
they are nice.

I will send you another ballot this  
week with instructions how to vote. I'm  
sure tho it will be Bailey for governor.  
Have never seen any body want one but  
worse than mamma wants Comm. Do  
hope we get him. If I don't get better help  
I'm afraid I want to march ~~ab~~ toward  
beating him. Have fun darlings but  
please don't forget to write me.  
Love and kisses Mother.



Magnolia, Miss  
Aug. 8-43

Dearest Boys,

Well I got the letters last night so am in a better mood. Bet I'm fussier than any of your girls when you fail to write. The letter was a late one from Bob with an old one of Brock's enclosed. You sound like you are having a wonderful time and I'm so happy that you can. The money orders came and I'll go down tomorrow and take care of the first two notes\_ \$75 and \$20. Sorry I had to make it so heavy but getting it at separate times made it necessary.

No son I haven't got her check from the government. Shouldn't it be for more than \$22.50? It's from time you made Staff till now. Mary E husband told me something I want you to investigate. He said that he had make his mother an allotment to make his income and Victory tax lighter. He said if you make me an allotment as your dependent you will not have to pay on that. If this is true, you should make it for the amount you want to send home and save the tax. I don't know if this is true, but it's worth investigating.

I went to see Hettie this afternoon. She wants to come but of course can't until they get their cotton picked. Mack said he would let Hettie come by the 15<sup>th</sup> of Sept. That's a long time off but expect I'll still be wanting her. Vickie has our trip to Lynchburg all cut and dried for the first of Sept and tried to make Hettie say she would take over before then. She's a mess. Said she got a letter from Joe (her son) yesterday and he said he saw Alle on his last trip. Said when he told her that she and I were coming for a visit she like to have torn his suit off of him. I expect she did. Can't you see her?

We went by the place and I got so disgusted don't know when I'll go back. You know the peas I planted for caning? Well they had picked and sold all of them. Said they thought that's what I wanted to do. My part was \$12 but would have been much more if I could have saved them. Then I went to get my Irish potatoes seed to plant and they had eaten them up. Have a big pecan crop and I'm going to get them if I have to gather them green.

Betty Jean is taking her vacation this week. She was to go to Franklinton this afternoon to visit a friend till Friday but decided to wait till tomorrow. Virginia Payne wanted her to go to Van Dorn with them this afternoon and she found that Mr. and Mrs. Babington are going down in the morning so decided to go with them. She will work Sat. and will go to Jackson for a short visit next week. School starts the first day of Sept. so she doesn't have long to work or vacation. She had her biggest day yesterday - sold \$128.00 worth of merchandise. Her boss thought it was wonderful.

I forgot to tell you in my last letter that Betty Jean got a letter from your daddy last week. Said - oh I'll just send you the letter and let you see what he said. She and Ava has written him but I'm afraid he won't feel so proud of Betty J. letter. By the way



Ava is guessing up a storm about you not writing her. Have you got the birthday gifts she sent you. She asked today if you had mentioned them to me. That she hadn't heard word one from you since she sent them. Hope you get them for they are nice.

Will send you another ballot this week with instructions how to vote. Feel sure tho it well be Baily for governor. Have never seen anybody want one worse than Momma wants Comas. Do hope we get him. If I don't get better help I'm afraid I won't do much toward beating him. Have fun darlings but please don't forget to write me.

Love and kisses, mother.



Magnolia, Miss  
Aug. 22 - 43 -

Hello Darling;

I know you think I've been careless about writing you. It hasn't been carelessness at all but I've had so much to do that I'm dead tired when night comes. Dora, has been with me over a week and has worked almost as hard as I. She's certainly a swell person and is always helping me out ~~in~~ some way. She's staying with Hobson to night and tomorrow night and will go home Tuesday to vote. Mamma came yesterday to be here to vote Tuesday. My but I hope Barkley and Riley win.

Well I'm giving this house up on the 1st and moving with Aya and the children. Major has joined the Navy and will be leaving soon so am sure getting to gathering up what we should do. I hate like the devil to see him go but it's what he wants and no doubt he would be drafted before long anyway so guess it's best. I hate leaving Magnolia on Betty Jean's account for I know she loves it here. However I'm sure she will feel quite different about McComb than she did when we lived there before. We were both so unhappy no clothes or any thing. I may send her to Summit or I should say South West. Mr. Kenner told Aya it cost \$12 a unit (6 week) for straight course or \$18 for commercial <sup>and</sup> I want her to stay with me until she finishes high school. The question of



help is going to be worse in presence of letter  
They promise to come and you had see  
them and those that do come or not with  
a "test" I'm simply worn out and don't  
know if I can hold out till the 1st or not.  
Tera. Will be home to morrow and I'm  
going to tell her so guess she'll go in  
to care again as she did when she thought  
I was leaving in the spring. I've enjoyed  
my stay here as long as I had good help  
and have also done right well, but I'm  
convinced that I can't carry on.

Surprise number two is that I'm getting  
ready to go to Lynchburg about the 18th of  
Sep. Joe called Vicki today and said he  
was mailing her ticket to morrow. I got a  
letter from Belle yesterday and she sounded  
thrilled to death over the thought of my coming  
and listen what she said - "Best Bee, I'm  
leaving here about the 20th for Maxine to  
bring Papa home. Am going in my car  
and if you'll come and go with me it won't  
cost you a cent". I never really thought much  
about going until I got her letter, but that  
sounded like too good an opportunity to pass  
up. You know I've never been further  
south than New Orleans or further  
north than Jackson, so it will be  
a wonderful trip for me. And too I know  
the girls love me and will do all they  
can to make my visit a great success.

I forgot to tell you that I plan to get  
me a job when I get back. Waa. spoke to



the manager of Penney about me yesterday  
and he said he felt sure he could give  
me work when I returned. Don't think that  
I plan to sit down on your darling for  
I don't. However I've got to get something  
easier than what I'm doing now. For one  
month tho I plan to for get work completely.  
I hope I hope!

I've been thinking of you all day. Wondering  
just how big a time you were having on  
your trip to Yellow Stone N. Park. You didn't  
say how long a leave you had. I'm so  
glad you can go to the places of interest  
around you. A car is an expensive <sup>possession</sup>  
but a damn good one. As usual we  
joined Roberson and Mamma at Dixie  
Springs for the afternoon. Wish you  
could have seen Betty J. riding the surf  
board. First time she had ever tried  
to ride one and the rascal did  
fine. I'll try any thing once. I  
want to write Alice a note to inform  
her that I'm taking her up on her  
offer. Tomorrow is Monday and an  
awful hard day so I need some  
sleep too. Hope you approve of what  
I'm doing for I didn't have time to  
ask your advise. Be sure my  
darling and don't forget I love  
you Stanley Mother.



Magnolia, Miss  
Aug. 22-43

Hello Darlings,

I know you think I've been careless about writing up you. It hasn't been carelessness at all but I've has so much to do that I'm dead tired when night comes. Dora has been with me over a week and has worked almost as hard as I. She's certainly a swell person and is always helping me out in some way. She's staying with Hobson tonight and tomorrow night and will go home Tuesday to vote. Mamma came yesterday to be here to vote Tuesday. My but I hope Bailey and Culey wins.

Well I'm giving this house up on the 1<sup>st</sup> and moving in with Ava and the children. Major has joined the Navy and will be leaving soon so am sure getting together. It's what we should do. I hate like the devil to see him go but it's what he wants and no doubt he would be drafted before long anyhow so guess it's best. I hate leaving Magnolia on Betty Jean's account for I know she loves it here. However I'm sure she will feel quite different about McComb than she did when we lived there before. We were both so unhappy; no clothes or anything. I may send her to Summit or I should say Southwest. Mr. Kenna told Ava it cost \$12 a unit (6 week) for straight course or \$18 for commercial course. I want her to stay with me until she finishes high school. The question of help is going to be worse in place of better. They promise to come and you never see them and those that do come are not worth a "hoot". I'm simply worn out and don't know if I can hold out till the 1<sup>st</sup> or not. Tera will be home tomorrow and I'm going to sell her so guess she'll go in to tears again as she did when she thought I was leaving in the spring. I've enjoyed my stay here as long as I had good help and have also done right well but I'm convinced that I can't carry on.

Surprise number two is that I'm getting ready to go to Lynchburg about the 18<sup>th</sup> of September. Joe called Vickie today and said he was mailing her a ticket tomorrow. I got a letter from Alle yesterday and she sounded thrilled to death over the thought of my coming and listen to what she said. "Aunt Bess I'm leaving here about the 20<sup>th</sup> for Maxine's to bring Jepa home. Am going in my car and if you'll come and go with me it won't cost you a cent. I never really thought much about going until I got her letter but that sounded like too good and opportunity to pass up. You know I've never been farther south than New Orleans or further north than Jackson, so it well be a wonderful trip for me. And too I know the girls love me and will do all they can to make my visit a great success.

I forgot to tell you that I plan to get me a job when I get back. Ava spoke to the manager of Penney's about me yesterday and he said he feels sure he could give me work when I returned. Don't think that I plan to sit down on you darlings for I don't. However I've got to get something easier than what I'm doing now. For one month tho I plan to forget work completely. I hope I hope!



I've been thinking of you all day wondering just how big a time you were having on your trip to Yellowstone N. Park. You didn't say how long a leave you had. I'm so glad you can go to the places of interest around you. A car is an expensive [unreadable] but a darn good one. As usual we joined Hobson and Mamma at Dixie Springs for the afternoon. Wish you could have seen Betty J. riding the surfboard. First time she had ever tried to ride one and the rascal did fine. She'll try anything once. I want to write Alle a note to inform her that I'm taking her up on her offer. Tomorrow is Monday and an awful hard day so I need some sleep too. Hope you approve of what I'm doing for I didn't have time to ask your advise. Be sweet my darling and don't forget I love you dearly,

Mother



5/59 J. B. Thornhill  
539th Bond St. AAB  
Pocatello, Idaho



Via Air

Mrs. Bessie Thornhill  
P.O. Box 205  
Maple, Mississippi



J. 24-1943

Dearest Mother,

I know you are anxious to hear of our trip to Yellowstone Park so I will start in and tell you. The thing is we had a lot to see in such a short while. It was every minute of the day went we left here Saturday mid night. Every one but the driver tried to sleep. None of us did well at all. We didn't have a flat but we had tire trouble. The one that had been Vulcanized was humming all over the place. We put the extra one in its place. We will inspect the tire. If it is not safe we will ask for a new one. The Carburetor acted up also. I don't know what happened to it for I haven't investigated. It so know it allowed too much gas to pass. I think we averaged ten miles to a gallon going up. Not much better than that coming back. We will have Carburetor cleaned and adjusted to get it moving again. We didn't let either trouble trouble us for we were out for a good time. We had me to. Bob drove first, then Ray. When Ray got sleepy I drove. I got to Yellowstone at five a.m. The town



was still black. The gate, West Gate, was closed. We had to wait until 7:45 to enter the park. We had to wait until 6:30 for breakfast. We had breakfast at 6:30 and entered the park at 7:45. The Ranger at the gate gave us a map with instructions. The regular entrance fee is \$3.00 service men free. We were glad to hear that for we didn't expect to be charged to enter the Park.

The Park is probably noted for its Glaciers for we saw more Glaciers than any thing else. Each Glacier has a name. Most of them are of different colors. They are of all sizes. There is one that erupts once a day. The water rising 75ft high. Some of the Glaciers are nothing but gas blowing out of holes in the ground. Most of the springs there are at boiling point. Some boils due to the gas under them and they are not at boiling point.

The Park has four or five different rivers running through it. Each river has a water fall. The Yellowstone Falls is the prettiest of them all. It's a hundred feet deep into a canyon that is several hundred feet deep and 1500 feet wide.

We didn't see all of the Park for we didn't have time. It is at least a 130 miles square. Think how big



it would take to see that much territory. We entered  
the west gate in Montana and left by the  
South Gate in Wyoming. I was confused when  
I found that I was in Montana that morning  
instead of Wyoming. The Park is in three states.  
The two above and Idaho also. I have a pillow  
slip from there "To my Sister". They didn't have  
any other. We got a sticker, Swiss broom and tag  
for the car.

We left the Park at 5:30. Reached Jackson, Wyoming  
at 6:30. Had dinner there. Left forocatillo  
a little after eight. We crossed the Tetons  
mountains into the highest mountain line ever  
ridden over. I don't know the height but it's ten  
miles up & down by the road. I must check on  
the height soon. We stopped in Bennington for something  
to drink. I had been asleep. Ray was driving. I was  
to drive from there to here. Bob couldn't sleep so he  
drove for me. I slept all the way. We reached  
ocatillo shortly after mid night. Took the girls  
home. Then we went home. Went to bed and  
slept till 7:30. I worked until ten. Took Calistoga  
from ten to eleven. Ate dinner and slept that afternoon.



I got up for supper and went back to bed.  
The C. Q. woke me at 11:30 am to relieve him  
that's where I am now. Before I came on duty I  
had fried eggs to eat. I will be on C. Q. untill  
twelve noon. I will probably sleep this afternoon  
before Bob & I with dates go swimming.

Whether it's time for us to get to gether and  
get you away from all this work and worry. Now  
told us that Major ask you to move in with her.  
Naturally you didn't give him an answer. When he  
leaves you & Eva will need each other - your living  
expense will be cut in half but you want be paying  
nurse maid to a dozen boarders. You want you are  
going through but you still refuse to change. We  
asking you again to give us the boarding house,  
move in with Eva, take your vacation to Virginia  
and maybe to New York, come back a new woman  
get a job if you like and settle down and live  
a normal life. This should be done before the  
first of October - you can start to school in  
Nov. 1st. First of all stop worrying about what  
your next dollar is coming from; thousands are  
being made daily. We don't want to get cross



with you over this for it is silly of you to  
act this way. Lets not be this way - Why should  
you kill yourself working because you dont want  
to be dependant on your children who were dependant  
on you for twenty years arent we. If you want  
to be our dependant that long you had better listen  
to us now and do what we want you to. We  
cant make you for we be to far away. Its left up  
to you - take it or leave it. Move in with us  
to-morrow and live a happy life or stay were you  
are and be a Nervous wreck in less than a year  
(thun you would be a dependant - We wouldnt like  
it either.)

Make us happy by letting us know that you are  
with us and are on your way to Virginia next month.  
We are waiting for this message and none other.  
Be a good girl now.

Give my love to all. Tell Doris I  
will write her sometime in the near  
future.

Love & Kisses  
Dad & Mom



8-24-1943

Dearest Mother,

I know you are anxious to hear of our trip to Yellowstone Park so I will start in and tell you. The thing is we had a lot to see in such a short while. To make every minute of the day count we left her Saturday Midnight. Everyone but the driver tried to sleep. None of us did well at all. We didn't have a flat but we had tire trouble. The one that had been Vulcanized was bumping all over the place. We put the extra on in its place. We will inspect the tire if it is not safe we will ask for a new one. The carburetor acted up also. I don't know what happened to it for I haven't investigated. I do know it allowed too much gas to pass. I think we averaged ten miles to a gallon going up. Not much better than that coming back. We will have carburetor cleaned and adjusted to get it normal again. We didn't let either trouble trouble us for we were out for a good time. We had one too. Bob drove first, then Ray. When Ray got sleepy I drove. I got to Yellowstone at five a.m. The town was still black. The gate, West Gate, was closed. We had to wait until 7:45 to enter the park. We had to wait until 6:30 for breakfast. We had breakfast at 6:30 and entered the park at 7:45. The regular entrance fee is \$3.00 service men free. We were glad to hear that for we didn't expect to be charged it enter the park.

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The park has four or five different rivers running through it. Each river has a water fall. The Yellowstone falls is the prettiest of them all. It's a hundred foot drop into a canyon that is several hundred feet deep and 1500 feet wide.

We didn't see all of the Park for we didn't have time. It is at least 130 miles square. Think how long it would take to see that much territory. We entered the west gate in Montana and left by the south gate in Wyoming. I was confused when I found that I was in Montana that morning instead of Wyoming. The Park is in three states. The two above and Idaho also. I have a pillow slip from there "to my sister" They didn't have any other. We got a sticker, swiss broom and tag for the car.

We left the park at 5:30. Reached Jackson, Wyoming at 6:30. Had dinner there. Left for Pocatello a little after eight. We crossed the Teton Mountains. It's the highest mountain I've ever ridden over. I don't know the height but its ten miles up and down by the road. I must check on the height soon. We stopped in Remington for something to drink. I had been asleep. Ray was driving. I was to drive from there to her. Bob couldn't sleep so he drove for me. I slept all the way. We reached Pocatello shortly after midnight. Took the girls home. Then we went home. Went to bed and slept till 7:30. I worked until ten. Took [unreadable] from ten to [unreadable]. Ate dinner and slept this afternoon.



I got up for supper and went back to bed. The C.O. woke me at 11:30 to relieve him. That's where I am now. Before I came on duty I had fried eggs to eat. I will be on C.O. until twelve noon. I will probably sleep this afternoon before Bob and I with dates go swimming.

Mother it's time for us to get together and get you away from all this work and worry. Ava told us that Major ask you to move in with Ava. Naturally you didn't give him an answer. When he leaves you and Ava will need each other. Your living expenses will be cut in half and you won't be playing nurse maid to a dozen boarders. You what you are going through but you still refuse to change. We asking you again to give up the boarding house, move in with Ava, take your vacation to Virginia and maybe to New York, come back a new woman get a job if you like and settle down and live a normal life. This should be done before the first so Bettye Jean can start to school in McComb. First of all stop worrying about where your next dollar is coming from; thousands are being made daily. We don't want to get cross with you over this for it is silly of you to act his way. Let's not be this way-why should you kill yourself working because you don't want to be dependent on your children. We were dependent on you for twenty years weren't we. If you want to be our dependent that long you had better listen to us now and do what we want you to. We can't make you for we are to far away. It's left up to you-take it or leave it. Move in with Ava tomorrow and live a happy life or stay where you are and be a nervous wreck in less than a year (then you would be a dependent-we wouldn't like that either).

Make us happy by letting us know that you are with Ava and are on your way to Virginia next month. We are waiting for this message and none other. Be a good girl now.

Give my love to all. Tell Doris I will write her sometime in the near future.

Love and kisses, Bob and Brock



Mr. B. Thornhill  
Box 205  
Magnolia Miss



S/Sgt. T. B. Thornhill  
539<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq. A. A. B.  
Pocatello  
Idaho.



Magnolia Mies  
Aug. 29, 43.

My darling boy.

My darling boy  
I know you think  
that your mother is getting to be  
a bad girl about writing but  
I have the same excuse to offer.  
Work and more work. Just two  
more morning and I want to have  
to go to bed thinking about getting  
up at six o'clock to fix Mr. Bob  
breakfast. I've enjoyed my stay  
here and am very grateful for  
what I've done in a financial  
way but I've worked too hard  
this summer.

Brooks' letter telling of the trip to  
Yellow Stone Park and giving me  
order game this morning. I'm  
sure the letter telling you of my



decision to move with Ava.  
Reached you soon after you  
sent it. The trip to the park <sup>land</sup>  
ed. Wonderful. Too bad tho that  
you didn't have longer to stay  
Major, goes to Shulba on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
to be sworn in and then he  
will leave in seven to thirty days  
- seven more likely. I'll leave  
him the 1<sup>st</sup> after fraying my  
bills and getting the house  
straight. All are sick over my  
leaving and don't know how  
they will manage their eating.  
By the way, Doris, is leaving  
too. on the 1<sup>st</sup>. ~~Book~~ Poor but  
was transferred to Liberty and al-  
most died when she learned  
about it. I don't think it will be  
so bad or at least not as bad  
as she's afraid of it being. Major  
moved a load of my things in



Summer and I've decided to  
let her do it. It will cost \$18 a  
month but Mr. Kemmer said if  
she wanted a job sweeping floors  
it would pay \$8 a month. Mrs.  
K. said that several of the girls  
worked in Summit and McComb  
Sat. Afternoons. If she can get  
a eight hour job Sat. I'd  
rather she do that ~~can~~ than ~~sweep~~  
sweep the floors. If I land a  
good job we will be alright.  
I wouldn't want her to rush through  
school but harvest it looks now  
like our high school will soon  
be nothing. And too B.G. is big  
and old for her age and I know  
can take care of herself. A nice  
coat and shoe is about all  
she's left for us to get her this  
winter. I think she's been a smart  
girl don't you?



the company truck yesterday  
is coming tomorrow after work  
for more and then we move the  
refrigerator Tuesday night. My  
but I'm proud of it. Awa. is letting  
the Pops use here. They have an  
ice saw but don't have an ice  
route any more. They should be  
proud of it. Expect the house will  
be a little crowded unless we  
find a place to store a few  
things.

I hope you approve of my plans  
for Betty Jean. I hated to move  
to Mr. Combs on her account. She  
hates it and I know. it. However  
she's tried to make me think she  
didn't mind. Last week she ask  
if I would send her to South  
West. so she can finish high  
school this winter and next



Did you think I'd forgotten the  
trip to Pa. Well I haven't and plan  
to leave the 8<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>. I got air  
mail letters from Alie and Mack  
to day and will send them to you.  
I know they would be glad to  
have. Am I conceited or am  
I conceited? ha, Alie going to Mack  
in her car and said the trip  
would not cost me a cent. Sounds  
too good to be true. I love going  
to see them but would much rather  
be taking my self toward you. Of  
course I know it would cost too  
much and I'd hate to have P.D. if I  
was going to see you. Do you  
still think you will get a furlough  
in Nov. and coming south in  
the fall. How I wish you could  
be stationed near enough home  
that we could visit you often  
hoping you will be soon.



Sorry you had Car trouble on  
your trip and hope you didn't find  
much wrong with it. Getting my  
brake lined Cost me \$2.50. I  
got a Certificate for two #1 grade  
tires and ordered them from Sam  
Friday. The two Cost \$31.75. Mr. Quinn  
said one of my tires would take a  
retread so I'll have four good  
tires. Wish I could have had my  
car checked and everything fixed  
and tightened up before I gave  
the house up but I couldn't go  
on another month without help.

Boys I want be home first of  
Oct. so I want you to send the  
money order for the notes to Steve.  
for I don't want to take a chance  
on it being paid late. Also write  
him a note of thanks for being so  
nice about letting me have the money.  
Address Mr. Steve Babington. Magnolia.  
There must be a stopping paper so  
I'll make this it. I love you & your  
over mother



Magnolia, Miss  
Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>, 43

My Darling boys,

I know you think that your mother is getting to be a bad girl about writing but I have the same excuse to offer, work and more work. Just two more mornings and I won't have to go to bed thinking about getting up at six o'clock to fix Mr. Bob breakfast. I've enjoyed my stay here and am very grateful for what I've done in a [unreadable] way but I've worked too hard this summer.

Brock's letter telling of the trip to Yellowstone Park and giving me orders came this morning. I'm sure the letter telling you of my decision to move with Ava reached you soon after you sent it. The trip to the park sounded wonderful. Too bad tho that you didn't have longer to stay.

Major goes to Shelby on the 7<sup>th</sup> to be sworn in and then he will leave in 7 to 30 days – seven more likely. I'll leave here the 1<sup>st</sup> after paying my bills and getting the house straight. All are sick over my leaving and don't know how they will manage their eating. By the way Doris is leaving too. On the 1<sup>st</sup>. Poor kid was transferred to Liberty and almost did when she learned about it. I don't think it will be so bad or at least not as bad as she's afraid of it being. Major moved a load of my things in the company truck yesterday. He's coming tomorrow after work for more and then will move the refrigerator Tuesday night. My but I'm proud of it. Ava is letting the Pope's use hers. They have a nice one but don't have an ice route any more. They should be proud of it. Expect the house will be a little crammed unless we find a place to store a few things.

I hope you approve of my plans for Betty Jean. I hated to move to McComb on her account. She hates it and I know it. However she's tried to make me think she didn't mind. Last week she asked if I would send her to Southwest so she can finish high school this winter and next summer and I've decided to let her do it. It will cost \$18 a month but Mr. Kenna said if she wanted a job sweeping floors it would pay \$18 a month. Mrs. K said that several of the girls worked in Summit and McComb Sat. afternoons. If she can get an eight hour job Sat. I'd rather she do that than sweep the floors. If I land a good job we will be alright. I wouldn't want her to rush through school but honest it looks like our high school will soon be nothing. And too B.J. is big and old for her age and I know can take care of herself. A nice coat and shoes is about all she's left for me to get her this winter. I think she's been a smart girl, don't you?

Did you think I'd forgotten the trip to VA? Well, I haven't and plan to leave the 8<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>. I got air mail letters from Alle and Mack today and will send them to you. I knew they would be glad to have. Am I conceited or am I conceited? Ha. Alle is going to Mack's in her car and said the trip would not cost me a cent. Sounds too good to be true. I love going to see them but would much rather be taking my self toward you. Of course I know it would cost too much and I'd hate to leave B.J. if was going to see you. Do you still think you will get a furlough in Nov. and come south in the fall. How I wish you



could be stationed near enough to home that we could visit you often. Here's hoping you will be soon.

Sorry you had car trouble on your trip and hope you didn't find much wrong with it. Getting my brakes lined cost me \$12.00. I got a certificate for two #1 grade tires and ordered them from Sears Friday. The two cost \$31.75. Mr. Quin said one of my tires would take a retread so I'll have four good tires. Wish I could have had my car checked and everything fixed and tightened up before I gave the house up but I couldn't go another month without help.

Boys I won't be home first of Oct. so I want you to send the money order for the notes to Steve for I don't want to take a chance on it being paid late. Also write him a note of thanks for being so nice about letting me have the money. Address Mr. Steve Babington, Magnolia.

There must be a stopping place so I'll make this it. I love you darlings.

Nite nite, mother.

Mamma and Lena came down today and my help (Dora bless her heart) went home with them. I'm glad for she's been doing too much. We all are - except Tal - happy over beating Mike Conner. Dr. Riley lost but he and Lena will be taken care of.





UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES  
POCATELLO, IDAHO

8-31-43

Dear Mathus & all,

well I feel much better now that we got paid this morning. I was a little extravagant this month & checked up a little short. It being the last of the month guess you are moving & getting settled down again. I am really glad to that you are ready for that vacation. (I am really having trouble with this pen) By the way has the poker come back yet? I really need it. As I was saying hope you are ready for the vacation. you will have 10 days to shag things up or not before starting. I know you will be glad to get a break for once. First in way you & I do hope every thing turns out O.K. I wonder if you would be too tired to drop back by Pocatello for a couple of weeks? I sure would like to see you. If you think you can make it we know & we will get a room & everything. We could have a wonderful time too! We could go to Yellowstone. Salt Lake & lots of places. Too I don't think we will be over a couple of months & would like for you to see this country. If you wanted to



you could get warp here and stay couple months.  
wouldn't that be nice. So in case you are not too  
tired after the other trip just let us know. I would  
really like to have you come up. You would enjoy  
it too. It wouldn't cost but very little more  
than train fare either. So think it over. you  
could get a one way ticket to Va. & get ticket home  
there. I think it would be a good deal for having  
us as here and can't get but 7 days at home  
it would cost much less for you to come here  
than for the both of us to make the trip. How  
about it? (Hope you say yes.)

Will has motor but has the money or yet? But  
he is all ready to go. I hope he gets a good  
Station & maybe a car by. Give him my love &  
I am still wondering how he will make that  
much money. I don't know much about the  
money tho. Glad to hear Ann is getting better &  
she is doing all kinds of things. I hope  
she continues.

I am wondering what B. J. has decided to  
do. Guess she will know by now. She will  
do what is best tho I am sure. She is really a





UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES  
POCATELLO, IDAHO

sweet kind of seems to have plenty of sound  
judgment. She doesn't seem like a kid at 15.  
I am really proud of her.

Boy is it getting cold here! I thought it was  
going to freeze yesterday but didn't. It warmed  
up a bit today. It's the mornings that are  
here. I don't mind it much tho. Foot is like  
the place was every day.

Remember I was telling you about the girls  
I met. Well we changed & things are going  
O.K. They are really nice & good looking. we have  
lots of fun with them. Think we will go to a  
dance to night.

Brock got a letter from Barbara today & she  
doesn't seem to be angry at all. We will in the  
end, probably. I can't be married tho but she  
should be able to understand.

Roy is leaving for Salt Lake the 4<sup>th</sup> to go to  
school a month. He seems to be happy over the



deal but I don't have any desire to go to  
school again.

We were at the Shamrock last night had  
a wonderful time. How about a date to go sometime  
and see it. would have a big time.

Well there is no more so think things  
over and let us know what you decide. Keep you  
close to camp. Give my love to all.

Love

Bob & Brock



8-31-1943  
United States Army Air Forces  
Pocatello, Idaho

Dearest Mother and all,

Well I feel much better now that we got paid this morning. I was a little extravagant this month and checked up a little short. It being the last of the month guess you are moving and getting settled down again. I am really glad to know that you are ready for that vacation. (I am really having trouble with this pen) By the way has the packard come back yet? I really need it. As I was saying hope you are ready for the vacation. You will have 10 days to straighten things up and rest before leaving. I know you will be glad to get a break for once. First in many years & I do hope everything turns out OK. I wonder if you would be too tired to drop back by Pocatello for a couple of weeks? I sure would like to see you. If you think you can make it let us know & we will get a room & everything. We could have a wonderful time too! We could go to Yellowstone, Salt Lake, and lots of places. Too, I don't think we will be over a couple of months & would like for you to see this country. If you wanted to you could get work here and stay couple months. Wouldn't that be nice. So in case you are not too tired after the other trip just let us know. I would really like to have you come up. You would enjoy it too. It wouldn't cost but very little more than train fare either. So think it over, you could get a one way ticket to VA and get ticket from there. I think it would be a good deal for being we are here and can't get but 7 days at home it would cost much less for you to come here than for the both of us to make the trip. How about it? Hope you say yes.

Well has major left for the Navy as yet? Bet he is all ready to go. I hope he gets at a good station & maybe close by. Give him my luck & I am still wondering how he will make that much money. I don't know much about the Navy tho. Glad to hear Ava is getting better & she is doing a fine job of losing weight. Hope she continues.

I am wondering what Bl.J. has decided to do. Guess she will know by now. She will do what's best tho I am sure. She is really a sweet kid and seems to have plenty of sound judgement. She doesn't seem like a kid of 15. I am really proud of her.

Boy is it getting cold here! I thought it was going to freeze yesterday but didn't. It warmed up a bit today. It's the mornings that's cold here. I don't mind it much tho. Fact is I like the place more every day.

Remember I was telling you about the girls I meet. Well we changed & things are going OK. They are really nice & good looking. We have lots of fun with them. Think we will go to a dance tonight.

Brock got a letter from Barbara today & she doesn't seem to be angry at all. Mrs. Wall is the one, probably. I can't be worried tho for she should be able to understand.



Ray is leaving for Salt Lake the 4<sup>th</sup> to go to school a month. He seems to be happy over the deal but I don't have any desire to go to school again.

We were at the Shamrock Sat night and had a wonderful time. How about a date to go some nite am sure we would have a big time.

Well there is no news so think things over and let us know what you decide. Hope you decide to come. Give my love to all.

Love, Bob and Brock



Sunday night

My Dear Boys-

I havent written you since I got home, so many things happening.

First Mamma was out in the yard and feed (Monday evening) & I stayed with her until Wednesday, then I got rested up and guess what I did. went out to stake some tomato plants and cut my foot with the small ax I was using so now I am setting on a



2 while, but oh I hope not for  
long I am so tired all ready  
Mamma was not hurt but  
was frightened and a little  
sore so I stayed until I  
felt she was all right

See I am glad your  
mother gave up that house  
my my the work was hard  
too much for her, & I hope  
she can get a good rest &  
then her trip & she will feel  
like enjoying life

I am glad that Betty &  
is going to Summit I think



it will be best for her.

Ava house is small & will not be hard to keep warm if they don't have any help.

John is still in the desert & hot as blue blazes he says I am so glad Brock is.

New Chief again & know he enjoys being boss.

That was a good trip to Yellow Stone Park and I know you enjoyed it. I am sorry I did not go on there when I was in Pocatello.



Nancy has just returned  
from Goodman & is full  
of the good time she had.

Guess Betty will be  
starting to school tomorrow  
you should have seen her  
riding the sur board she  
was really good, but Robson  
learned to throw her off. & of  
course he enjoyed that

We are getting some rain  
& cooler weather - we needed  
both, this has been a hot summer  
hope you are both well & happy  
from Aunt Dora



Early September 1943\*  
Sunday Night

My Dear Boys,

Haven't written you since I got home, so many things happening.

First Mama was out in the yard and fell (Monday evening) so I stayed with her until Wednesday. Then I got rested up and guess what I did. Went out to stake some tomato plants and cut my foot with the small axe I was using so now I am setting for a while, but oh I hope not for long. I am so tired all ready.

Mama was not hurt but was frightened and a little sore so I stayed until I felt she was all right.

Gee, I am glad your mother gave up that house. My, my the work was hard, too much for her, & I hope she can get a good rest & then her trip & she will feel like enjoying life.

I am glad that Betty G is going to Summit. I think it well be best for her.

Ava house is small & will not be hard to keep even if they don't have any help.

John is still in the dessert & hot as blue blazes he says.

I am so glad Brock is Crew Chief again. I know he enjoys being boss.

That was a good trip to Yellowstone Park and I know you enjoyed it. I am sorry I did not go one there when I was in Pocatello.

Nancy has just returned from Goodman & is full of the good time she had.

Guess Betty will be starting to school tomorrow.

You should have seen her reading the score board. She was really good, but Hobson learned to throw her off. Of course he enjoyed that.

We are getting some rain & cooler weather. We needed both. This has been a hot summer

Hope you are both well and happy.

From Aunt Dora

\*Dora mentions in this letter that she is glad Bessie gave up the boarding house but her trip to the Northeast had not happened yet, which would place this letter in early September 1943



My darlings.

Lynchburg Va  
Sun. 7

Some I haven't had one minute for writing since arrival. We landed at Joe's Friday morning too tired for work. We ate breakfast took a bath and went to bed. At one o'clock Joe waked Vicki to tell her he had been called to make a run here leaving there at three and leaving here on return at ten. Of course we got up dressed and came with him. We had a nice visit together and lot of fun. I'm going back to visit with them some before I go home.

The drive from Nashville here is beautiful and I enjoyed every minute of it. First mountains I've ever seen and couldn't take my eyes off of them.

Bill and Dan are fine. They certainly have a pretty and comfortable place. Dan seems to be a very nice person and he and Bill are happy, I think.

We will leave for Mark's next Sat. morn. Just Bill and I. Guess



We will drive all night and I can't help but dread it as Jim to do a big part of the driving.

We got good seats all the way up but how we had to push and wait to do it. Seems that every body is moving about. We changed buses trip times from Mr Comb's. I enjoyed it all. The crowds late hours and pushing for seats but oh I was worn out. I went to spend the night in Knoxville to rest but couldn't get a room anywhere.

They want to take me riding to see the town. Will write you a long letter to mums as I've had plenty of time to my self.

I love you  
Mother



Early September 1943  
Lynchburg, VA  
Sunday

My Darlings,

Seems I haven't had one minute for writing since arrival. We landed at Joe's Friday morning too tired for words. We ate breakfast, took a bath and went to bed. At one o'clock Joe waked Vickie to tell her he had been called to make a run here leaving there at three and leading her on return at ten. Of course we got up dressed and came with him. We had a nice visit together and lots of fun. I'm going back to visit with them some before I go home.

The drive from Nashville here is beautiful and I enjoyed every minute of it. First mountains I've ever seen and couldn't take my eyes off of them.

Allie and Dan are fine. They certainly have a pretty and comfortable place. Dan seems to be a very nice person and he and Alle are happy I think. We will leave for Mark's next Sat. noon. First Alle and I guess we will drive all night and I can't help but dread it as I'm to do a big part of the driving.

We got hood seats all the way up but how we had to push and wait to do it. Seems that everybody is working about. We changed busses six times from McComb to here. I enjoyed it are the crowds late hours and pushing for seats but I was worn out. I meant to spend the night in Knoxville to rest but couldn't get a room anywhere.

They want to take me riding to see the town. Will write you a long letter tomorrow as I've plenty of time to myself.

I love you, Mother



Dearest Mother,

Sept. 14, 1943

Now that you are in Virginia with Alie  
aren't you glad you agreed to give up work  
and visit a while? We are glad that you did.  
We want you to have the time of your life  
on this trip. As I said before we want you here  
before you return home to settle down again. Come  
when you return from N.Y. and we will visit  
Yellowstone before they close for the winter.  
We will go to Salt Lake, Sun Valley and any  
other place you desire. You must come for we  
want to be able to go home unless we go to Texas  
or I mean from here for several days just enough to  
all that he gives us. Don't let this interfere  
with the trip to N.Y. though. We know you want  
to see both places. If you come here we will  
show you the west just like Alie & Maxine  
are ~~but~~ showing you the East.  
I know I should write you every day but I  
never stop long enough to catch a breath.



My day begins at 6:30 a.m. I get up dress make  
my bed, eat and go to work before 9:30. I work  
until 5:30. Eat supper, shave, bathe and dress, shine  
my shoes and go to town to pick up our date  
at eight. We date six nights a week. We never  
get home before one. Some times we stay out until  
3:00. It all depends what we do. We went to  
Idaho Falls (50 miles north) last Thursday - Bob, Irene  
Ruth & I. We danced to Henry King's orchestra  
until 12:45. I was home in bed at three. We went  
on a picnic to Justice Park Sat. Night. It was  
three when we got home that night. We had T-bone  
steak - corn on cobs, tomatoes, Potatoes, Coca Cola. We  
Roasted marshmallows then ate watermelon when  
we return to home. Helen is Ruth's cousin. She had  
a date too.

Just don't worry about us darling. We will take  
care of our selves and think of you all the time.  
You think of us and make sure there are  
no dull moments in your life.

Write us about your good times darling. And  
don't forget we will be looking for you after  
you visit W.A.  
Love & kisses  
Bob & Irene



Sept. 14, 1943

Dearest Mother,

Now that you are in Virginia with Alle aren't you glad you agreed to give up work and visit a while? We are glad that you did. We want you to have the time of your life on this trip. As I said before we want you here before you return home to settle down again. Come when you return from N.Y. and we will visit Yellowstone before they close for the winter. We will go to Salt Lake, Sun Valley, and any other place you desire. You must come for we won't be able to go home unless we get to Texas or Tenn from here for seven day furloughs is all that we are given us. Don't let this interfere with the trip to N.Y. though. We know you want to see both places. If you can come here we will show you the west just like Alle and Maxine are showing you the East. I know I should write you every day but I never stop long to catch a breath. My day begins at 6:30 a.m. I get up dress, make my bed, eat and go to work before 7:30. I work until 5:30. Eat supper, shave, bathe, and dress, shine my shoes and go to town to pick up our dates at night. We date six nights a week. We never get home before one. Sometimes we stay out until 3:00 it all depends what we do. We went to Idaho Falls (50 miles north) last Thursday-Bob-Theresa Ruth & I. We danced to Henry King's orchestra until 12:45. I was home in bed at three. We went on a picnic to Justic Park Sat. Night. It was three when we got home that night. We had T-bone steak-corn on the cob, Tomatoes, potatoes, Coca Cola. We roasted marshmallows then ate watermelon. When we return to [unreadable}. Helen is Ruth's cousin. She had a date too.

Just don't worry about us darling. We will take care of ourselves and think of you all the time. You think of Bessie and make sure there are no dull moments in your life.

Write us about your good times darling and don't forget we will be looking for you after you visit N.Y.

Love and Kisses

Bob and Brock



Ithaca New York.  
Monday Morning

My darling boys.

I'm still having my worries about not hearing from you. I know it hasn't been so long but it seems like an awful long time to me. Guess tho you just didn't believe I was coming and waited till you heard from you to write. I started to wire you this morning but decided you might think me foolish or silly. I do hope I get a letter real soon. However don't send any more here for I'll be gone before they get here. Just be sure and have some waiting for me at Lynchburg.

This is truly a beautiful Country. I enjoyed every mile of the trip here. Even the 80 extra miles we made. We changed highways at Williamsport Pa. and after traveling 40 miles found that we took the wrong end and had to go back to Williamsport and start again. On top of that we had a flat away out from any where. We were lucky tho for the fifth car stopped and changed tires for us. We left Lynchburg at eleven thirty Sat. morning and arrived here at four thirty yesterday morning. We found the girls and Del fine. Wish you could see Jipe. Her eyes look so much better and she looks better than I've ever seen her. She weighs 15 1/2 lbs. and is a typical flapper. Wish you could hear ole fool Alvin. Tell about our trip over.

We are going to New York. Will leave here Friday morning. And will have that afternoon and night and Sat morning there. Then we will visit Del's sister in New Jersey and go back by Washington etc.



Your Mother is having a wonderful trip. and  
when aces said it comes to the fact that I owe  
it all to you. money and because you wanted  
me to come so bad. You evil rascals

They want to get through quick and take me  
right evening so will stop and write more  
later - I love you  
Your Loving  
Brother



Mid September 1943  
Ithaca, New York  
Monday Morning

My Darling boys,

I'm still having my worries about not hearing from you. I now it hasn't been so long but it seems like and awful on time to me. Guess tho you first didn't believe I was coming and waited till you heard from me to write. I started to wire you this morning but decided you might think me foolish or silly. I do hope I get a letter real soon. However don't send any more here for I'll be gone before they get here. Just be sure and have some waiting for me at Lynchburg.

This is truly a beautiful country. I enjoyed every mile of the trip here. Even the 80 extra miles we made. We changed highways at Williamsport, PA and after traveling 40 miles found out that we took the wrong end and had to go back to Williamsport and start again. On top of that we had a flat away out from anywhere. We were lucky tho for the fifth car stopped and changed tires for us. We left Lynchburg at eleven thirty Sat. morning and arrived her at four thirty yesterday morning. We found the girls and Del fine. Wish you could see Japa. Her eyes look so much better and she looks better than I've seen her. She weighs 154 lbs and is a typical flapper. Wish you could hear ole fool Alle tell about our trip over.

We are going to New York. Will leave here Friday morning and will have that afternoon and night and Sat. morning there. The we will visit Dell's sister in New Jersey and go back by Washington ect. Your mother is having a wonderful trip and when all's said it come to the fact that I owe it all to you. Money and because you wanted me to come so bad. You sweet rascals.

They want to get through and take me sightseeing so will stop and write more later.

I love you darlings

Mother



Sept. 18, 1943

Dearest Mother,

Your long letter from Virginia came yesterday. I enjoyed it very much for I know you are very happy there and will be the same the whole trip. Traveling is lots of fun especially when one is visiting friends along the way. I have seen a lot in traveling from one place to another and have enjoyed it very much.

I don't think Ava and Betty Jean should mind if you visit us here. After all they have years ahead of them for travel. There is no better time than the present for you to make this trip. But now that the weather is too cold for either of us to travel by train it may be best that you wait until next summer. For Yellowstone Park closes the fifteenth of next month. We would want to spend the week-end there when



you come. The latest rumor is we will be here  
this winter. If so and we remain next summer  
you and Bettye Jean ~~too~~ may join us here if you  
still think that's what you want.

We are glad you asked the bond for we  
want you to have every thing on this trip. If  
you see any thing you want let it be yours.  
If there is any thing you want to do do it.  
Don't let any thing come between you and a good  
time. I know folks ~~will~~ <sup>are</sup> doing every  
thing they can to show you around.

Give my love to all and thank them  
for what they are doing for you. Some day  
we can make that trip to Yreath.

Love & Kisses

Bob & Brock



Sept. 18, 1943

Dearest Mother,

Your long letter from Virginia came yesterday. I enjoyed it very much for I know you are very happy there and will be the same the whole trip. Traveling is lots of fun especially when one is visiting friends along the way. I have seen a lot in traveling from one place to another and have enjoyed it very much.

I don't think Ava and Bettye Jean should mind if you visit us here. After all they have years ahead of them for travel. There is no better time than the present for you to make this trip. But now that the weather is too cold for either of us to travel by train or bus it may be best that you wait until next summer too. Yellowstone Park closes for the season the fifteenth of next month. We would want to spend the weekend there when you come. The latest rumor is we will be here this winter. If so and we remain next summer you and Bette Jean may join us here if you still think that is what you want.

We are glad you cashed the bond for we want you to have everything on this trip. If you see anything you want let it be yours. If there is anything you want to do, do it. Don't let anything come between you and a good time. I know Alle and Maxine are doing everything they can to show you around.

Give my love to all and thank them for what they are doing for you. Some day we can make that trip together.



September 23, 1943

Dearest Mother & Girls,

I am so sorry that my letters did not reach you when you expected them too. Of course it was no fault of mine & I know I wrote at least two letters to Longhorne Lane (H.A.). All jokes aside now - you are having a wonderful time and we know. And how it thrills us to know that our Mother is away from work and Wry and out on a tour of the East Coast with three of the most wonderful girls in the world. We want you to do every thing that has ever come into your mind; if it takes six months to do so.

Your letter from Virginia telling us to write in care of Maxine came yesterday. The one from New York telling us to write in care of Alie came to day. You seem to be traveling faster than your mail. I do hope you had several letters waiting for you when you returned. I know what letters mean to you that's why I am going to write often beginning right now even though it will be a short one. Good night sweethearts until to-morrow or next day. Love & kisses  
Bob & Brock



September 23, 1943

Dearest Mother & Girls,

I am so sorry that my letters did not reach you when you expected them too. Of course it was no fault of mine. I know I wrote at least two letters to Laughma Lane (HA). All jokes aside now-you are having a wonderful time and we know and how it thrills us to know that our mother is away from work and worry and out on a tour of the East Coast with three of the most wonderful girls in the world. We want you to everything that has ever came into your mind; if it takes six months to do so.

Your letter from Virginia telling us to write in care of Maxine came yesterday. The one from New York telling us to write in care of Alle came today. You seem to be traveling faster than your mail. I do hope you had several letters waiting for you when you returned. I know what letters mean to you. That's why am going to write often beginning right now even though it will be a short one. Good night sweethearts until tomorrow or next day.

Love and kisses,

Bob and Brock



Mrs Basie Thornhill  
306. Neb. Ave  
Mo Comb Mass



7/Sgt. James Robert Thornhill  
539<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq. A. A. F.  
Pocatello  
Idaho.



Jackson Miss.  
Oct. 25-43.

My dearest boy:

How my boy to night? I bet its really cold there to night for its feeling like winter here to night. I can see you walking around in the snow. But I'm also wondering what effect snow and ice will have on your driving home Xmas. How do you drive in the snow, isn't it dangerous or do you have some thing on the wheels to keep it from slipping? Please be careful and don't take any chances.

Betty Jean came up Sat. night and stayed till this afternoon. We went to town and picked out her coat. Its a new shade of blue and very pretty and nice. The price is \$32.00 but Lena can get it at cost which should save a good bit. That seems an awful lot to pay for her a coat but the cheaper ones are ~~not~~ cheap and looks it. And too I think shes about through growing and can wear it a long time. Mamma got her a black out flower to wear to dances and she was about as proud of it as the coat. I paid Lena \$10.00 and will finish paying her later. The ten was about all I could do for ~~her~~ ~~her~~ ~~her~~ broke. I'm afraid I'm going to miss my boarding house money.

Sure I did hate for my baby to go home with out me again. If it wasnt for taking mamma back with me I certainly would have gone with her. Do hope we get to go in couple of days for I'm wanting to get back. Lena got back last night and is feeling real well. I think so I'm hoping she will send me down soon. Mamma wants to stay with me and Hobson is thrilled pink over it. But Lena, for some reason, dont want to say shes going to stay. However I feel sure she means to stay this winter if no longer. Dont know if Hobson will make it possible for an



Not to work so I can take the best of care of her  
or what. I know Hobson. Will do his part and more  
but the others I don't know. I'm mighty anxious  
to know what I'm going to do.

Edna took me to Vicksburg yesterday afternoon  
~~number~~ number of people ask me about Vicksburg  
while I was on my trip and I was ashamed to  
admit that I had never seen it so ~~and~~ resolved  
to do so. Had no idea it would be so soon.  
Edna gave Edna some C. gas stamps and  
Jal. gave her money for gas and other things  
that we might need. Wish we had gone for the  
day for the National Park is too big to see as  
one should in a short time. Will go some  
time. How beautiful it? The park is beautiful  
and the town is old and interesting.

Are you sure you don't want me to send you  
any Candy and nuts before Xmas? I'll bake our  
fruit cakes just as soon as the pecans dry  
enough and am I going to fill them full.  
Will also have Chickens in the locker so we want  
~~to~~ dress them. I can hardly wait and how  
I hope every body will be feeling good. Boys  
you can't know how bad I want to have hold  
of both of you at once. Oh we are going to have  
fun Aunt We? We must.

I enjoyed Mrs Cadys letters a lot, so the Walls have  
lost interest in you. I'm sorry for them. I'm mighty  
nice to you. I've owed Barbara a letter since before  
I left Magnolia. I've waited so long I don't know how to  
answer it. Do they have any more over there. Thought if they  
don't and if we get what we should from my tree we  
could pick out some and send them - especially Mrs  
Cadys. What you think. No more. I'll be seeing you  
again soon. Be careful darling and don't let anything  
happen to you. We want to be happy. Xmas time  
Send my letters home - Mother



Jackson Miss  
Oct. 25-43

My Dearest Boys,

How's my boys tonight? I bet it's really cold there tonight for it's feeling like winter here tonight. I can see you walking around in the snow. But I'm also wondering what effect snow and ice will have on your driving home Xmas. How do you drive in the snow. Isn't it dangerous or do you have something on the wheels sot keep it from slipping? Please be careful and don't take any chances.

Betty Jean came up Sat. Night and stayed till this afternoon. We went to town and picked out her coat. It's a new shade of blue and very pretty and nice. The price is \$33.00 but Lena can get it at cost which should save a good bit. That seems an awful lot to pay for her a coat but the cheaper ones are cheap and look it. And too I think she's about enough growing and can wear it a long time. Mamma got her a blackout flower to wear to dances and she was about as proud of it as the coat. I paid Lena \$10.00 and will finish paying her later. The ten was about all I could do for I'm just about broke. I'm afraid I'm going to miss my boarding house money.

Sure did hate for my baby to go home without me again. If it wasn't for taking Mamma back with me I certainly would have gone with her. Do hope we get to go in couple of days for I'm wanting to get back. Lena got back last night and is feeling real well I think so I'm hoping she will send us down soon. Mamma wants to stay with me and Hobson is thrilled pink over it, but Lena for some reason don't want to say she's going to stay. However I feel sure she means to stay this winter if no longer. Don't know if Hobson will make it possible for me not to work so I can take the best of care of her or what. I know Hobson will do his part and more but the others I don't know. I'm mighty anxious to know what I'm going to do.

Edna took us to Vicksburg yesterday afternoon. Numbers of people ask me about Vicksburg while I was on my trip and I was ashamed to admit that I had never seen it so resolved to do so. Had no idea it would be so soon. Slim gave Edna some C. gas stamps and Tal gave her money for gas and other things that we might need. Wish we had gone for the day for the National Park is too big to see as one should in a short time. Will go some time. How about it? The park is beautiful and the town is old and interesting.

Are you sure you don't want me to send you any candy and nuts before Xmas? I'll bake our fruit cakes just a soon as the pecans dry enough and am I going to fill them full. Will also have chickens in the locker so we won't have to dress them. I can hardly wait and how I hope everybody will be feeling good. Boys you can't know how bad I want to have hold of both of you at once. Oh, we are going to [unreadable] aren't we? We must.

I enjoyed Mrs. Cady's letters a lot. So the Wall's have lost interest in you. I'm sorry for they were mighty nice to you. I've owed Barbara a letter since before I left Magnolia. I've waited so long I don't know how to answer it. Do they have any nuts over there. Thought if they don't and if we get what we should from my trees we could



pick out some and send them – especially the Cady's. What you think. No negroes. I'll be seeing you again soon. Be careful darlings and don't let anything happen to you for we want to be happy Xmas. Kisses, Mother.



Dearest Bettye Jean,

1943

Your theme letter came yesterday. We enjoyed it very much. You left us in doubt though for we don't know what grade was given or what others thought of it. I couldn't write an article like that in a million years. Speaking of school work do you make the same grades as you did last year. Something tells me you are getting more like your brothers every day, that is all out for a good time and let school work take care of itself. We want you to have a good time dear but at the same time we want you to make good in school.

Ava wrote that she brought home an \$11.00 coat for mother. Did she keep it if so what are the payments. Let us know and we can send payment when sending note for car.

How are the Mothers and the twin beds. I do hope they can be happy and satisfied all of the time. Be sure you do what you can to help  
Love & Kisses  
Bob & Brock



1943

Dearest Bettye Jean,

Your theme letter came yesterday. We enjoyed it very much. You left us in doubt though for we don't know what grade was given or what mother thought of it. I couldn't write an article like that in a million years. Speaking of school work do you make the same grades as you did last year. Something tells me you are getting more like your brothers every day, that is all out for a good time and let school work take care of itself. We want you to have a good time but at the same time we want you to make good in school.

Ava wrote that she brought home a \$100 coat for mother. Did she keep it. If so what are the payments. Let us know and we can send payment when sending note for car.

How are the mothers and the twin beds. I do hope they can be happy and satisfied all of the time. Be sure you do what you can to help.

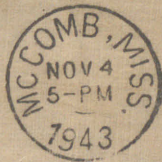
Love and Kisses,

Bob and Brock



Mr. Thornhill  
506 N. Ave.  
W.S. Comb-trier

Air Mail



S/Sgt. Talnage Brock Thornhill  
539<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq A. A. B.

Pocatello  
Idaho.



Mr. Cornb Miss  
Wed Night.

My dearest boys.

Your telegram came this morning and liked to have scared me to death. Sue said "mam ma don't you like to get money?" I told her I did. She said well why did you talk ugly about it? You said I don't like them. I'm afraid of it and all those things. I sure did hate to ask you for money now for I know you can easily use as you have left after paying your note. I'm going to Magnolia tomorrow to pay the note and I'm going to ask Steve to set the note up a month and I feel sure he will do it for me. That will mean that you won't have to make a payment in Dec. and will have it for your furlough.

Guess you have heard about the new law on dependent allotment. All now come dependents will get allotments and more than at first. So just as soon as you can make applications and get mine started again. and don't forget to include Betty Jean. Wa. will get \$50. Sue \$30 and Robert Brock \$20. Of course B. J. and I won't get that much but few dollars more than we got before. My but I'm glad we can get it again. I feel sure we can get along nicely after we get lined up and every thing started. I'm telling you being broke is an awful feeling after being able to write Chucks for three years.

Mamma and I got our beds up yesterday. Hobson bought them for us and my they are nice.



She seems to be perfectly satisfied and I hope we can keep her that way.

Bob. Your letter came today telling of your three days hunting. Listen get every box of shells you can to bring home with you. Hobson is having a time getting what he wants and you know how he loves to hunt. A number of friends have given him a lot so he says he can get by but could use more. He and several men are duck hunting on the Mississippi. The bag limit is 10 ducks and 3 geese a day and 20 ducks and six geese for one hunt. I hope he gets his bag limit. We have things ready to go hunting with you tomorrow. I can hardly wait for the time to pass. If you are moved I do hope you come much nearer home so we can see each other more often. Guess you haven't had any idea where it will be. Do you?

Betty Jean is still having fun going to the dances. She didn't do as well in school as she should and I'm sure it's due to too much play. Expect she's going to have to cut out some of it and do more studying.

She has been awfully cross for last few days. A. took her to Lucerne yesterday and he found her in right bad condition. She has piles on her kidneys and kidney stones. Said he had never had one so young with kidney stones. Hope she will be feeling better before her daddy gets home. Bob. She had a little of same trouble while you were at home. I'll write again soon. I love you mother. Sent the camera to day so you can make pictures of snow and ice home.



November 3, 1943  
McComb, Miss  
Wed Night

My Dearest Boys,

Your telegram came this morning and liked to have scared me to death. Sue said "Momo don't you like to get money?" I told her I did. She said why did you talk ugly about it? You said I don't like them. I'm afraid of it and all those things. I sure did hate to ask you for the money for I know you can easily use all you have left after paying your note. I'm going to Magnolia tomorrow to pay the note and I'm going to ask Steve to set the note up a month and I feel sure he will do it for me. That will mean that you won't have to make a payment in Dec. and will have it for your furlough.

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Betty Jean is still having fun going to the dances. She didn't do as well in school as she should and I'm sure it's due to too much play. Expect she's going to have to cut out some of it and do more studying.

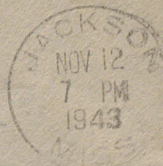
Sue has been awfully cross for last few days. Ava took her to Lucion's yesterday and he found her in right bad condition. She has pulse on her kidney's and kidney stones. Said he had never had one so young with kidney stones. Hope she will be feeling better before her daddy get's home. Bob she had an attack of same trouble while you were at home. I'll write again son. I love you, Mother

(sent camera today so you can make pictures of snow and bring home)



AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

From #073 Redwing  
Jackson 31. Miss



**VIA AIR MAIL**

T/Sgt James P Thornhill  
539 th Bomb Sq.

AAB  
Pocatello  
Idaho.



Friday

My Dear Boys-

I havent forgotten you  
but it seems so I know  
so I am sending this note  
until I can write a real  
letter.

Ugh it is so cold, almost  
freezing, but came after  
such nice warm weather

Gnest you are getting  
snow and below freezing  
hope you dont get snow  
bound for instance about  
Xmas time

I am ~~going~~ to church  
twice a day & thats keep  
me going.

Will write you soon  
hope you are well and  
happy  
from Aunt Dora

11-12-43



Friday, Nov 12, 1943

My Dear Boys,

I haven't forgotten you but it seems so I know, so I am sending this note until I can write a real letter.

Ugh, it is so cold. Almost freezing, but came after such nice warm weather.

Guess you are getting snow and below freezing. Hope you don't get snow bound, for instance about Xmas time.

I am going to church twice a day & that's keeping me going.

Will write you soon. Hope you are well and happy.

From Aunt Dora.



My darlings in the snow and ice -  
How about a little Paradise for a  
while!! Aren't you glad that you  
didn't hate it over here like some did  
and do - Anyway it was much nicer  
while you were here - there isn't room  
to walk around now.

Maggie got her call for 1:30 Thanks  
giving day and were we blue - then  
it was changed to the day after and  
were we happy! Now she is there and  
will have a couple of weeks in L.A. and  
then to school - Drop her a letter -

4530 17<sup>th</sup> N.E. 1/2 Phi Mu House Seattle Wash  
She will be rather homesick a while I  
suppose, but will finish in 18 months.  
She held a good and interesting job while  
here and got in a lot of Flying Squadron  
dancing and dates so she is ready for  
a lot of work now.

Kathryn is going to work for me  
during Christmas vacation. At present is  
writing a theme on "Fair Rosalind" - You  
two want to add any comments to it?

When I neglect you I keep thinking  
well they have a couple of nice girls  
and the car and conditions are better  
than the last time I was writing to  
you - Sent some cookies and reading  
material to your old island yesterday



gratulations upon the promotions -  
but wishes to you Bob - hope it  
comes soon - wish I had a supply  
sgt over here to supply the things  
we need - Our work has doubled  
since school began, the old station  
wagon is on the go every day -

I'll cross my fingers for a certain  
crew chief wish to break the record -  
am so happy your plane has had  
such good care - speaks well for my  
boy.

Tell you son-in-law Jean St Clair he was  
crew chief and received his plane just  
before going down under - was mighty  
busy for a while there. Had a rather  
blue letter from him this week -  
Norman is fine - busy - very - His  
address 42d Bomb Sq (H) 11th Bomb Gp (H)  
APO 240 - Both together yet.

Harold and Alon Kemmet (United Air line  
Pilot) from my home were in the other  
night. Harold has a hot plate for dishes  
and is doing light house keeping at Hickam.  
he has nearly 4 years which will mean  
a trip home unless he goes down under.  
Just a maybe. Didn't he get glued to  
the spot!

Since weather is a military secret  
I can't tell you Harold still works in  
the garden and is it beautiful. He did  
not have to water to night because it was



not necessary if you may have your  
weather I'll take this

I do hope Mother will not be  
disappointed Christmas she has  
waited long enough. Marjory will have  
4 Christmases away from home.

No, I don't think you will see  
another 4 years in prison tho we  
are beginning to see the results of  
pretty tough times down under  
you know what my work was when  
you were here - just play. The  
schools are a full tilt on  
helping me.

Well, you all three had better call  
at Oahu. and what's more I'm not  
sure that I want to see you bad  
enough to have you go down there  
again. Believe I'd rather wait and see  
you all on your honey moons with  
out any washing machine Charlie -

Your old island is begging for  
reading material so I'm mustling  
more in the A.M. - have better  
transportation again -

Slide down hill once for me but  
that will be enough - I'd rather lie on  
the lawn and look at the moon  
over head. Anyway we all love you all  
and do enjoy letters when you have  
time. and love to the folks at home  
Bill - Mow -



Honolulu, Hawaii  
December 1943\*

My Darlings in the snow and ice,

How about a little Paradise for a while!! Aren't you glad that you didn't hate it over here like some did and do—anyway, it was much nicer while you were here—there isn't room to walk around now.

Marjorie got her call for 1:30 Thanksgiving day and were we blue – then it was changed to the day after and were we happy! Now she is there and will have a couple of weeks in L.A. and then to school – drop her a letter – 4530 17<sup>th</sup> NE, % Phi Mu House, Seattle, Washington. She will be rather homesick a while I suppose, but will finish in 18 months. She held a good and interesting job while here and got in a lot of Flying Squadron dancing and dates so she is ready for a lot of work now.

Katheryn is going to work for me during Christmas vacation. At present is writing a theme on "Fair Rosalind" – you two want to add and comments to it!

When I neglect you I keep thinking well they have a couple of nice girls and the car and conditions are better than the last time I was writing you – sent some cookies and reading material to your old island yesterday.

Congratulations upon the promotions – and best wishes to you Bob – hope it comes soon. Wish I had a supply Sgt over here to supply the things we need. Our work has doubled since school began, the old station wagon is on the go every day.

I'll cross my fingers for a certain crew chief's wish to break the record. Am so happy your plane has had such good care – speaks well for my boy.

Do you remember Jean St. Clair he was crew chief and received his plane just before going down under – was mighty busy for a while there. Had a rather blue letter from him this week. Norman is fine – busy-very. His address 42<sup>nd</sup> bomb Sq. (H) 11<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp(H) APO 240 – both together yet.

Harold and Don Kemmet (United Airline Pilot) from my home were in the other night. Harold has a hot plate few dishes and is doing light housekeeping at Hickam. He has nearly 4 years which will mean a trip home unless he goes down under. Just a maybe. Didn't he get glued to the spot!

Since weather is a military secret I can't tell you. Harold still works in the garden and is it beautiful. He did not have to water tonight because it was not necessary. You may have your weather, I'll take this.

I do hope mother will not be disappointed Christmas she has waited long enough. Majorie will have 4 Christmases away from home.



No, I don't think you will see another 4 years in service tho we are beginning to see the results of pretty tough times down under. You know what my work was when you were here – just play. The schools are going full tilt on helping me.

Well, you all three had better call at Oahu and what's more I'm not sure that I want to see you bad enough to go down under again. Believe I'd rather wait and see you all on your honeymoons without any washing machine Charlie.

Your old island is begging for reading material so I'm rustling more in the AM. – have better transportation again.

Slide down hill once for me but that will be enough. I'd rather be on the lawn and look at the moon overhead. Anyway we all love you all and do enjoy letters when you have time. And love to the folks at home.

Still - Mom

\*This letter is not dated, but refers to Marjorie getting called to go somewhere the day after Thanksgiving, and she has already left. In addition, the letter tells that her daughter Katheryn is going to work for her during Christmas vacation. Since she greets them as her darlings in the snow and ice, they must be in Salt Lake City or Pocatello, ID for those are their only duty stations that would be frigid in early December.